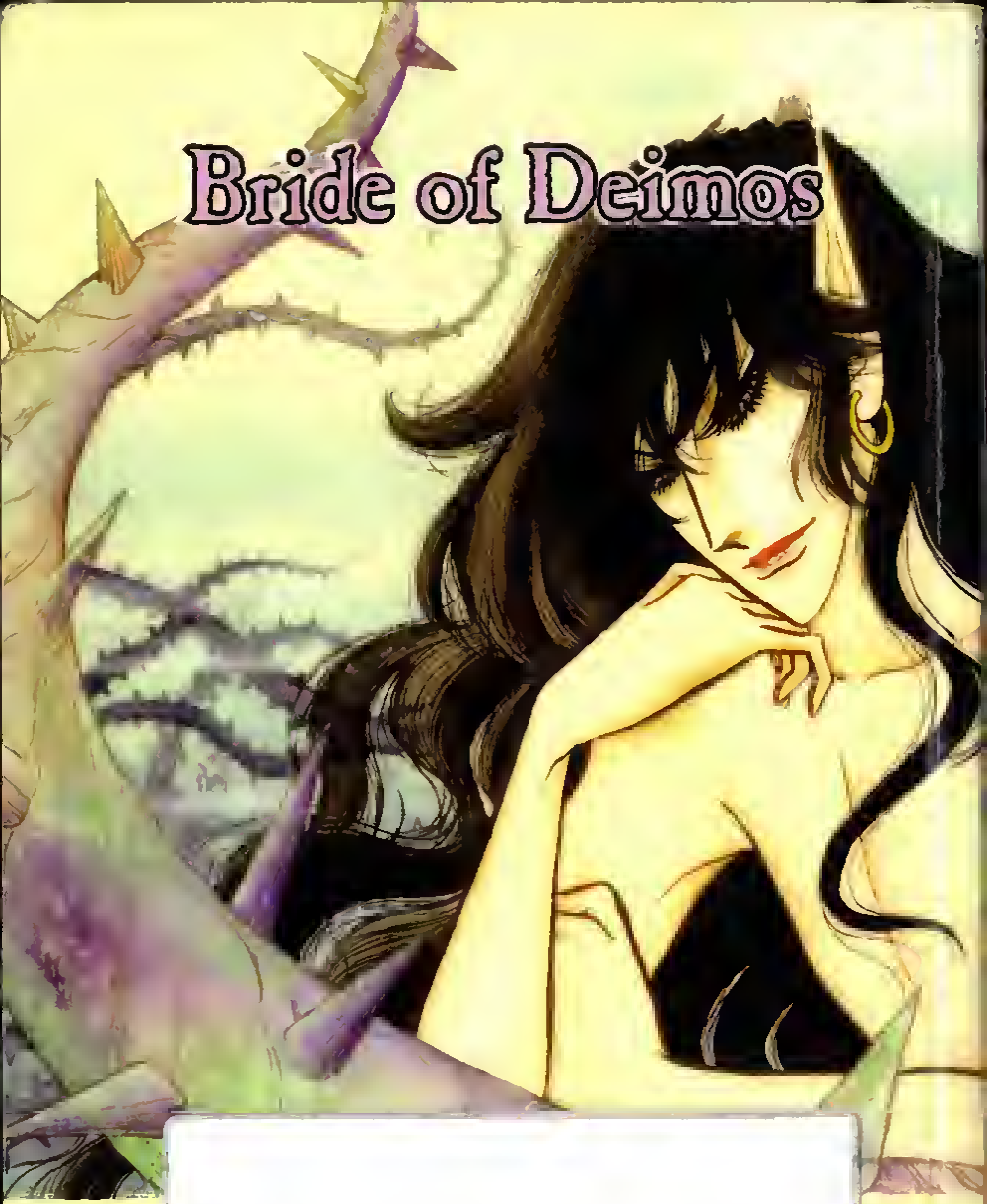
Bride of Deimos



comics ONE

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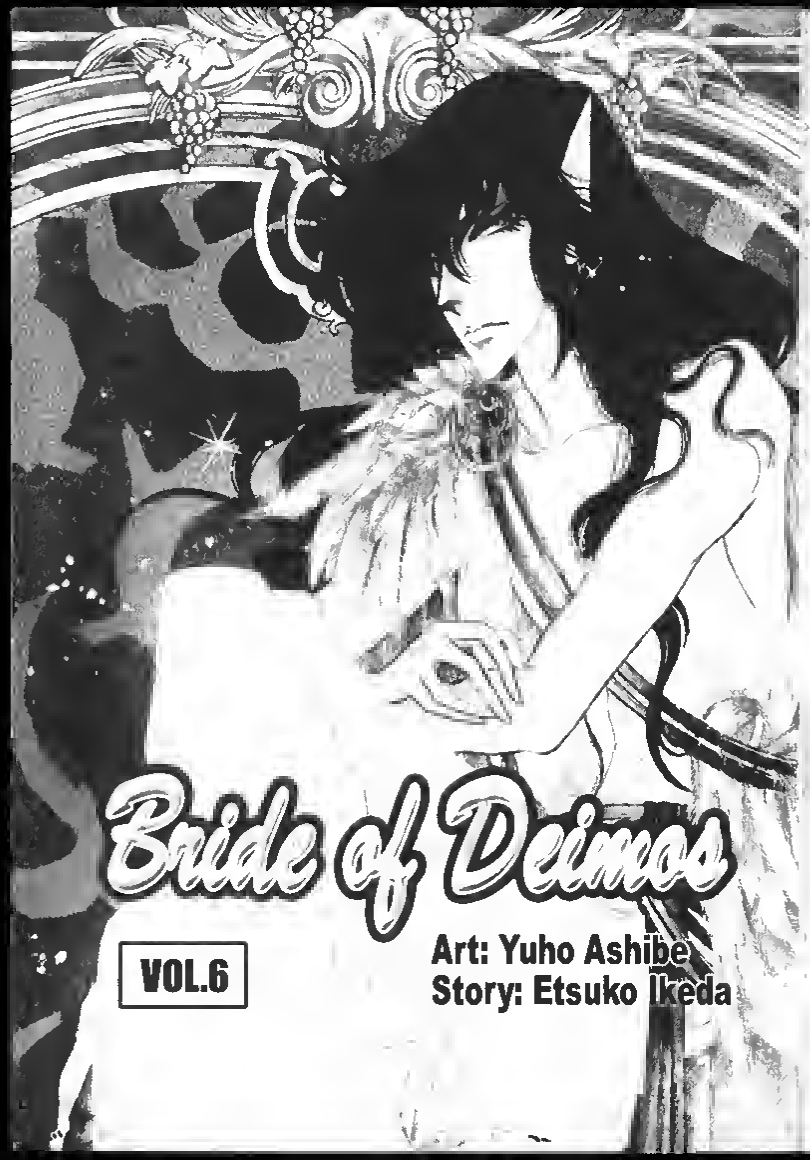
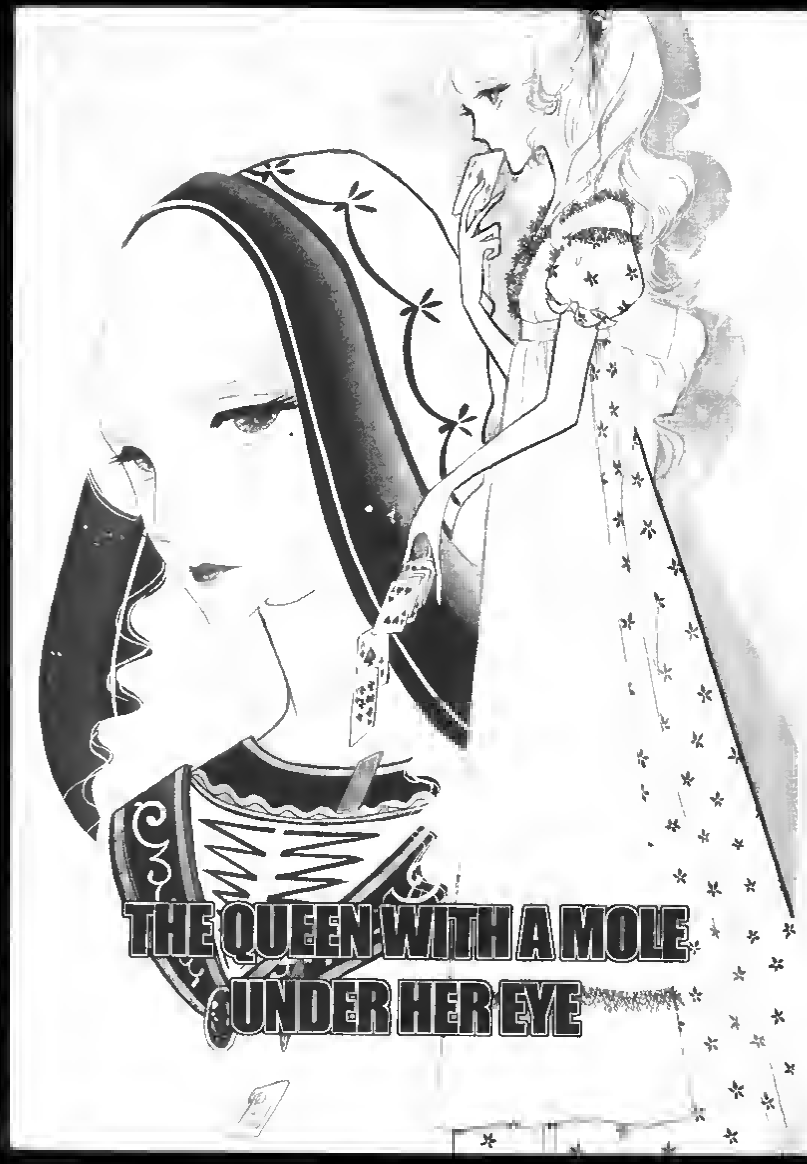
A handsome young movie star falls in love with Minako, but their new-found love may not stand a chance against the fate Deimos has planned for his brida. Later, an angel asks for Deimos' help in order to sava a young man she has fallen in love with. While hospitalized, Minako unwittingly helps a ghost exact revenge on the woman that stole her life. Back on Mt. Olympus Deimos, crashes a party to claim revenga for his beloved Venus, but is she still Deimos' only love?

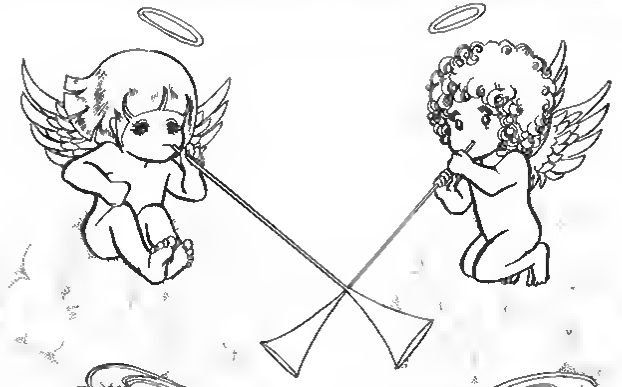


Bride of Deimos

VOL.6

Art: Yuho Ashibe
Story: Etsuko Ikeda





♥ BRIDE OF DEIMOS ♥

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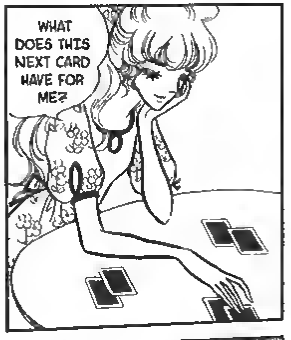
ACE OF HEARTS.


WHAT DOES THIS NEXT CARD HAVE FOR ME?

THEN, TODAY'S MY LUCKY DAY!
THE SIGN THAT AN UNFORESEEN FORTUNE WILL COME MY WAY.

DEIMOS!

YOU CAN'T JUST DO AS YOU PLEASE WITH MY LIFE!
HMPH...
ONLY I DO!
LEAVE ME ALONE!
DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME WITH THAT.
CARDS DON'T DETERMINE YOUR FUTURE.
SLAM
HEY!
JACK OF DIAMONDS
I WILL BE BLESSED WITH THE LOVE OF A GORGEOUS KNIGHT.
8
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
STOP!
Kalip
THAT IS THE FATE OF THE JACK OF DIAMONDS
AHAHAHA...
9

FADE

WHO SHALL SHINE UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT...?

OH NO. I'M JUST AS NERVOUS!

MINAKO...

YOU LOOK SO CALM

JUN! OH, I SHOULD HAVE ENTERED THE CONTEST.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! AS MOST OF YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW, THE WINNER OF THIS CONTEST WILL BE HONORED WITH THE ROLE OF JUN RYUZAKI'S LOVER IN HIS NEXT MOVIE.

SSHHHH!

SSHHH!

THE SCORES ARE IN!

THOSE LONELY EYES ARE TO DIE FOR

HE'S SO GORGEOUS!

JUN RYUZAKI!

HEE... HEE...

JUN!

JUN!

I LOVE YOU...

JUN?
THE LIGHT'S BROKEN.
OH MY!
BROKEN?
OH MY GOSH!
HUH?
STAND YOU'RE OUR NEW STAR...
MY LOVER.
AAAH!
AAAH!
JUN!
JUN, LOOK OVER HERE!
I LOVE YOU!
JUN!
JUN!

WUMPP
HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG?
LIGHTS!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
IT'S BROKEN!
IT'S STUCK!

THE TORN JACK.
SO HE'S
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MY LOVER.
LOVELY AS A ROSE... MS. MINAKO IFU!
SHE'S EXACTLY WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR
JUN RYUZAKI IS THE JACK OF DIAMONDS?
JUN...
THE HEROINE MUST BE CHOSEN FROM THE CONTESTANTS.
ぼ〜ん
STUN
MINAKO!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, MINAKO!
THOSE CARDS WERE RIGHT!
UNFORESEEN FORTUNE!?
ACE OF HEARTS!
ARE THERE ANY OTHER CONTESTANTS WHO WOULD BE MORE SUITED FOR THE PART?
TAP!

I KNOW IT'S HARD WORK, BUT YOU CAN DO IT. I'M HERE BY YOUR SIDE.
?
NO.. NOT AT ALL.
YOU TIRED?
THAT... LOOK..
IT'S SO COLD AS IF IT'S PIERCING MY HEART
BEAUTY SALON
BEAUTY SALON
BEAUTY SALON

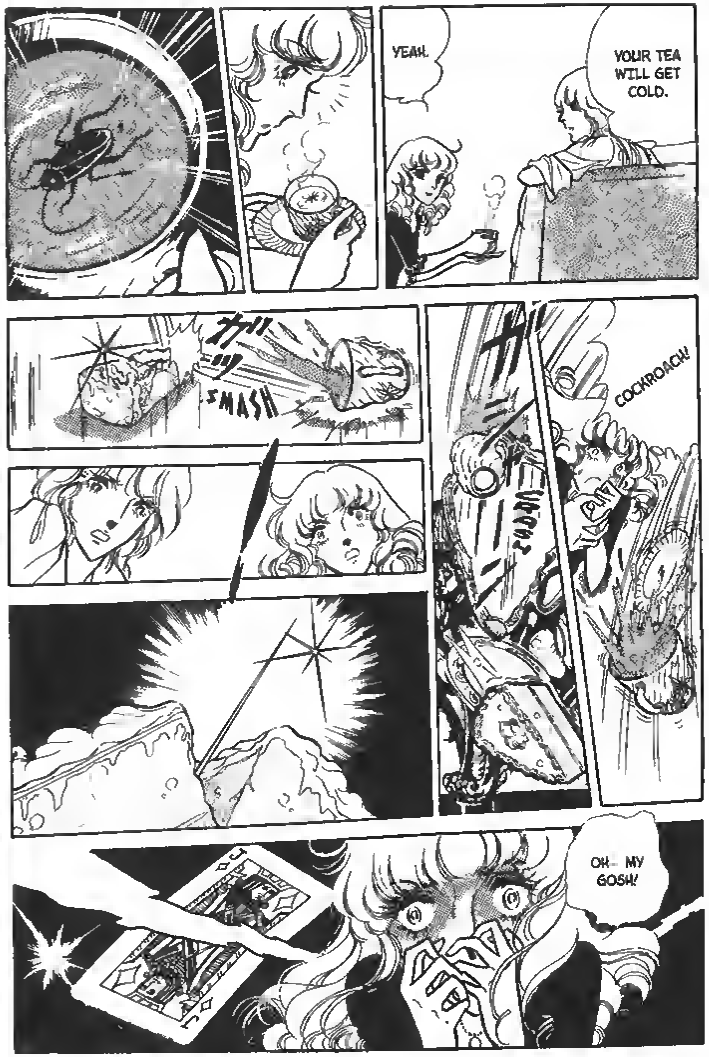
YEAH, IT'S NOT POSSIBLE.
NO WAY! I'M THINKING TOO MUCH INTO IT
HAH!

I WAS JUST WORRIED THAT MAYBE I WON'T BE ABLE TO MEMORIZE ALL THESE LINES
OH... UM...
FLAP FLAP
GLASS-LIKE ARDOR OF YOUTH
WHAT'S WRONG?
KIND...
HE'S OPENHEARTED...
DON'T WORRY! I'M HERE BY YOUR SIDE
I'LL GET IT
I'M SORRY!
WAH!
TRY AGAIN, FROM HERE
FLAP
GLASS-LIKE ARDOR OF YOUTH
FLAP

MINAKO.
THAT'S A GIVEN.
WHY?
EVEN I LOOK AT YOU WITH ENVY.
YOU THINK HE'S ALL YOURS.
ARE YOU THAT BLIND?
GLASS-LIKE ARDOR OF YOUTH
HEHE... I GUESS.
HE'S SO MUCH MORE ATTRACTIVE IN PERSON.
GLASS-LIKE ARDOR OF YOUTH

JUN...
YOU MUSTN'T GET ANY MUD ON YOU.
I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN TO YOU.
I'LL PROTECT YOU.
HEHE
DO YOU FIND IT FUNNY?
I FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU THE MOMENT I SAW YOU.
MINAKO!
YOU'RE AS LOVELY AS A ROSE.
THE ENTERTAINMENT WORLD IS A FLORID SWAMP IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL YOU'LL DROWN IN THE MUD OF RUMORS AND MONEY.
PERHAPS I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO CHOOSE YOU.
YOU'RE THE ONE I WAS LOOKING FOR.
I MEANT EVERY WORD I SAID.

THAT WILL BE WHEN YOU LOVE ME FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEART
ONE DAY, I'LL KISS YOU FOR REAL.
JUN...
EVERYONE HAS TO CARRY SOME SORROW ON THEIR SHOULDERS.
YOU DON'T FEEL THE SAME WAY?
WITH YOU BY MY SIDE.
I CAN STAND UP TO ANYTHING.
THEN WHY.?
THAT'S WHAT I'M SCARED OF
YOU WON'T BE HAPPY IF YOU LOVE ME.
THIS IS A KISS.


YEAH.
YOUR TEA WILL GET COLD.
SMASH
COCKROACH!
OH... MY GOSH!

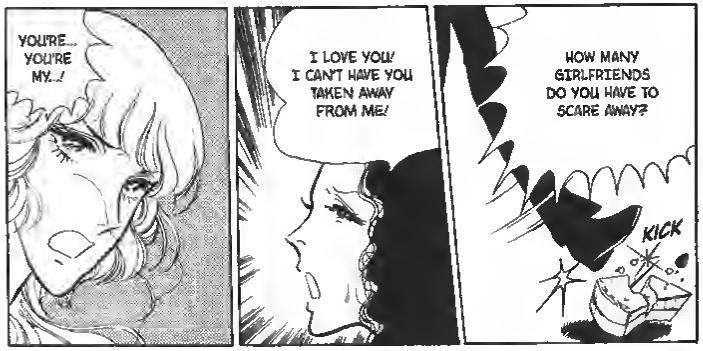
CLANK CLANK
CLANK
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU NOT TO SPY ON ME?
CLANK
DON'T MIND THE MAID.
THAT'S THE LOOK... THAT PIERCING LOOK.

BUT, JUN I..
I..
YOU'VE FALLEN FOR HIM, HAVEN'T YOU?
JUN I KNOW THAT IF WE FALL IN LOVE, BAD LUCK WITH COME OUR WAY

WAIT!
GRRR..

NEVER!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO REGRET SAYING THAT, ARE YOU?
I'M NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING.
THE POWER OF LOVE, EH?
YOUR LOVE IS A ONE WAY STREET TO YOUR DOWNFALL.
SSST...
PICK A CARD!
AND FACE YOUR FATE WITH YOUR UNDEFEATABLE POWER OF LOVE!
CHOOSE ONE TO GET THINGS ROLLING.
THE FUTURE OF YOUR LOVE WITH HIM IS WRITTEN ON THESE 3 CARDS.
IT'S A FEELING THAT YOU, THE DEVIL, COULD NEVER COMPREHEND
I LOVE JUN
YOU SHOULD END THIS SILLY LOVE BEFORE YOU REGRET IT.
SILLY LOVE .!?
I WILL NEVER ALLOW YOU TO FALL IN LOVE WITH ANOTHER MAN.
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU? YOU'RE MY BRIDE
YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO UPSET ME
TWITCH
I FEEL THE SAME WAY.
JUN SAID THAT OUR LOVE IS STRONGER THAN ANYTHING ELSE.
YOU CAN'T SCARE ME, DEIMOS

GIVE ME A BREAK!
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, JUN!


YOU'RE... YOU'RE MY...!
I LOVE YOU! I CAN'T HAVE YOU TAKEN AWAY FROM ME!
HOW MANY GIRL-FRIENDS DO YOU HAVE TO SCARE AWAY?
KICK

QUEEN OF SPADES SHE HAS A MOLE UNDER HER EYE
YOU SCARED?
... NO!
GULK
THERE'S A STAIN ON HER CHEST!
SSSST
PICK ANOTHER CARD.
NO! THIS CAN'T BE! JUN...!
BUT THIS JACK...
ORRRP!
JACK OF DIAMONDS

I'LL GIVE YOU THIS HOUSE AND ENOUGH MONEY TO LIVE OFF OF.
I EXIST ONLY FOR YOU.
BUT YOU HAVE TO STAY BY MY SIDE.
PLEASE LET ME GO.
THAT'S FINE. CALL ME YOUR SLAVE, YOUR MAID, WHATEVER.
I'M YOUNG. I WANT TO BE IN LOVE.
JUN!
I TRULY LOVE HER.
MINAKO..

I FOUND YOU AT THE COAL MINE AND RAISED YOU.
YES, I'M YOUR SISTER.
YOU WERE SO CUTE.
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN SPYING ON ME.
THINKING UP CRUEL WAYS TO CHASE AWAY ALL MY FRIENDS.
LOOK AT YOURSELF!
WHO DO YOU OWE IT ALL TO?
I DID EVERYTHING I COULD TO MAKE YOU A STAR.
BANG
DO KHANG
HOW CAN I INTRODUCE YOU AS MY SISTER?
STOP!

I'M LEAVING.
LOOK AT THESE HANDS!
THEY'RE WORN BECAUSE OF YOU!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR WHINING
NO ONE WILL MARRY ME AT THIS AGE..
CREEK
IF I CAN'T HAVE YOU, THEN I'D RATHER DIE!
YOU MEAN IT?
YOU'RE REALLY LEAVING?
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR DRAMATICS. DIE IF YOU WANT
I'M LEAVING.
GOODBYE SISTER
JUN IS LEAVING ME..
LEAVING ME...
IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF THAT MINAKO GIRL!

FLING
SNATCH
GRO
YIKES!
SMASH
SLAM
NGGG!
LET GO OF ME!
I'M NOT LETTING HER HAVE YOU!
DAMN IT!
AAAH!
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!
SLAM
SISTER...!
TEAR
SLASH
I'D RATHER KILL YOU THAN HAVE YOU TAKEN BY ANOTHER WOMAN
YOU WILL BE MINE .
FOREVER
SHING
CLIK
SHING

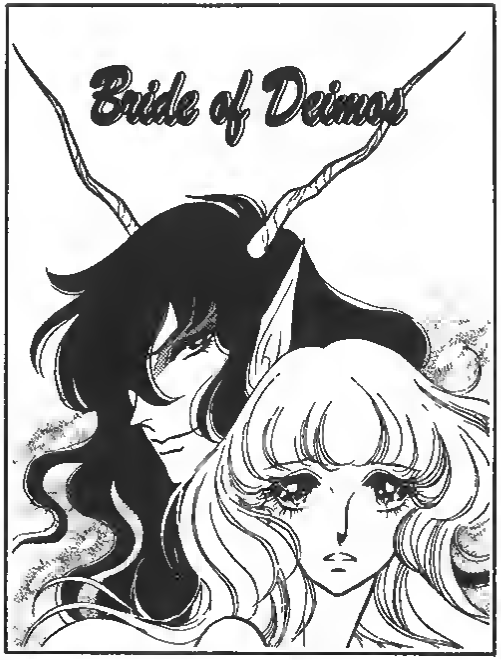
OPEN UP JUN!
IT'S ME
MINAKO!
BANG
BANG
PLEASE!
I KNOW YOU'RE
RIGHT THERE.
JUN!
BANG
BANG

BACK
OFF!
WOBBLE
S . SISTER !
AAAGGGHHH
SIZZ

SLITTLE
BANG BANG
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE?
WHY AREN'T YOU OPENING THE DOOR, JUN!?
BAM
HERE'S MY KISS TO YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
I CAN'T... MINAKO...
I CAN'T...
OPEN THE DOOR, JUN!
JUN!

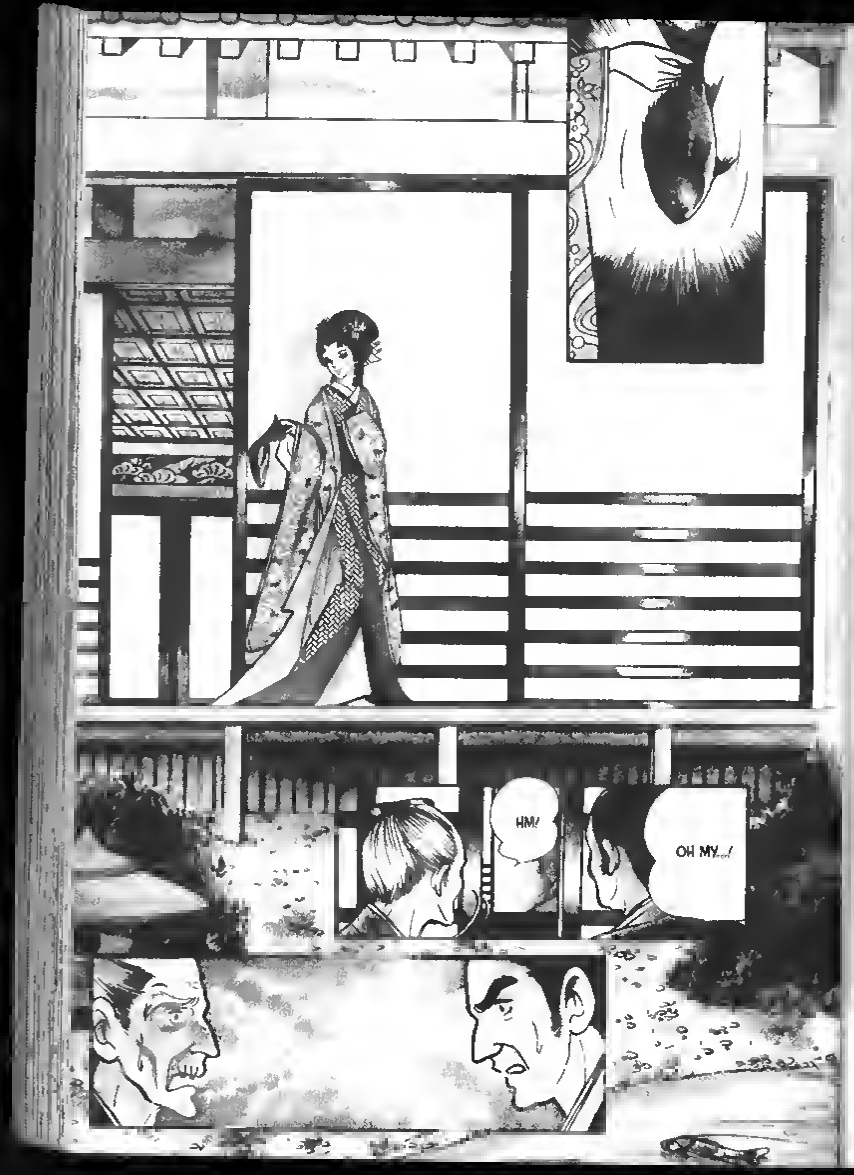
DEIMOS!
SHHHH
AHAHAHAHA!
HAHAHA!
7 RING
JUN...
DEIMOS!
JUN...
DEIMOS!
GIVE ME THE LAST CARD! I HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR!

SHHH...


Bride of Deimos

THE EYES THAT SHINE
IN THE DARK

I THOUGHT MAYBE HE BECAME A NEKOMATA...
YES BUT.. KOMA IS OLD. HE HAS LIVED FOR OVER 30 YEARS.
YES.
THEY SAY UNGRATEFUL BRUTES CURSE THEIR OWNERS AND AVENGE THEMSELVES.
NEKOMATA!?
YOU MEAN A FELINE MONSTER?
KOMA IS PRINCESS AYA'S FAVORITE. HE'S PROBABLY HIDING IN HER ROOM.
ACTUALLY...
WHAT'S THE MATTER GENPEI? YOU LOOK CONCERNED.
MY LORD..!
TABBAGO TOBII'S COMPOUND
I HAVEN'T SEEN KOMA IN DAYS
IT'S JUST THAT..
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR ENERGY OVER A CAT..
KOMA!? YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT?


HM!
OH MY...!

WE WILL DELIVER IT TO YOUR...
SSST
PRINCESS AYA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WE'RE TERRIBLY SORRY FOOD WILL BE SERVED SHORTLY!
I'M HUNGRY. IS THE FOOD READY YET?
I BROILED EXACTLY TEN, SIR
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
HM? WE'RE SHORT ONE FISH..

LICK LICK
PRINCESS AYA WOULD NEVER BE SO SHAMELESS.
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES.
MY LORD...!
TAT
I CAN ONLY IMAGINE THAT SHE HAS BEEN POSSESSED BY A NEKOMATA.
PRINCESS AYA HAS BEEN ACTING STRANGE EVER SINCE KOMA DISAPPEARED.
SLIIIDE

SLIIIDE
SLURP SLURP
LICK
SLURP SLURP
LICK

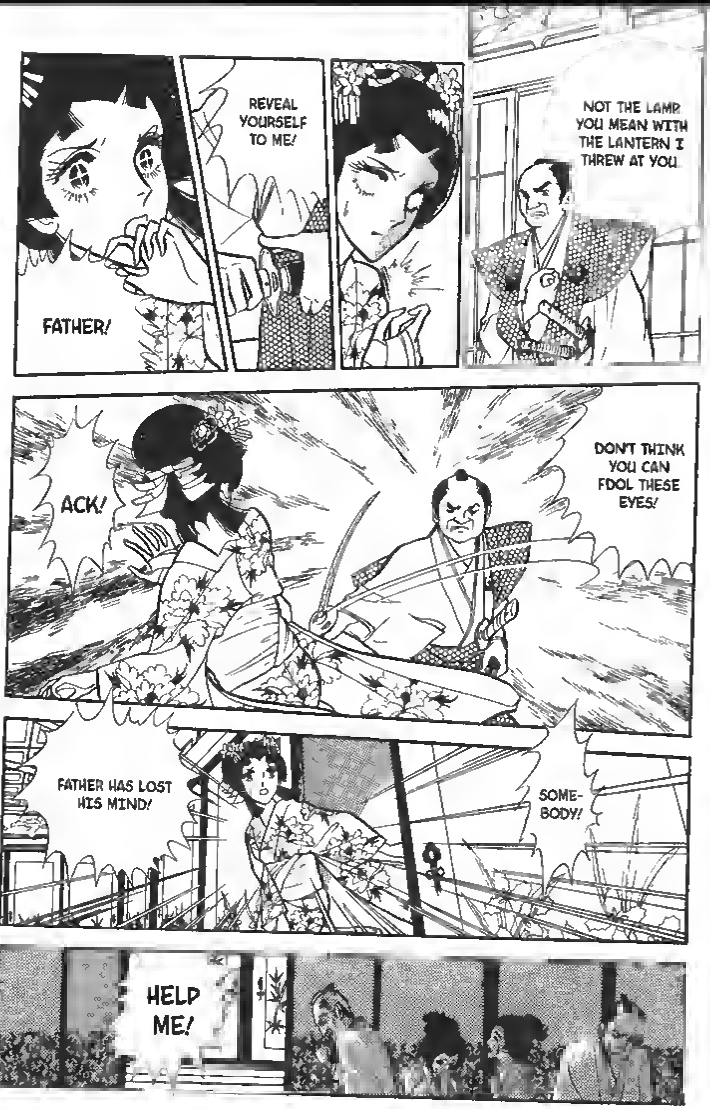
I... I CAN'T SEEM TO GET OUT OF THIS CEMETERY...
WHY DO YOU KEEP ROAMING AROUND THE SAME PLACE?
YES?
GENPEI!

DO YOU SUPPOSE YOU HAVE BEEN REFILLING THE OIL MORE FREQUENTLY THAN BEFORE?
GENPEI, I'M OUT OF OIL AGAIN
UH... NOTHING...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
FATHER!
NEKOMATA'S LOVE THE TASTE OF OIL...
PERHAPS I HAVE...
NO!
THAT IS INDEED MY SWEET AND BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS.

IT'S A NEKOMATA!
LEAP
MEEOOWW
MEEOOWW!
VOOSH
HAH!
LOOK! AN EVIL SPIRIT!

BURNED?
YES. PRINCESS AYA WAS BURNED.
DR. RYOAN WAS HERE?
PARDON ME FOR NOT WELCOMING YOU AT THE ENTRANCE.
I BURNED MYSELF WITH THE LAMP.
FATHER.

NOTHING SERIOUS.
ARE YOU INJURED, MY LORD?


FATHER!
REVEAL YOURSELF TO ME!
NOT THE LAMP YOU MEAN WITH THE LANTERN I THREW AT YOU.
ACK!
DON'T THINK YOU CAN FOOL THESE EYES!
FATHER HAS LOST HIS MIND!
SOME-BODY!
HELP ME!

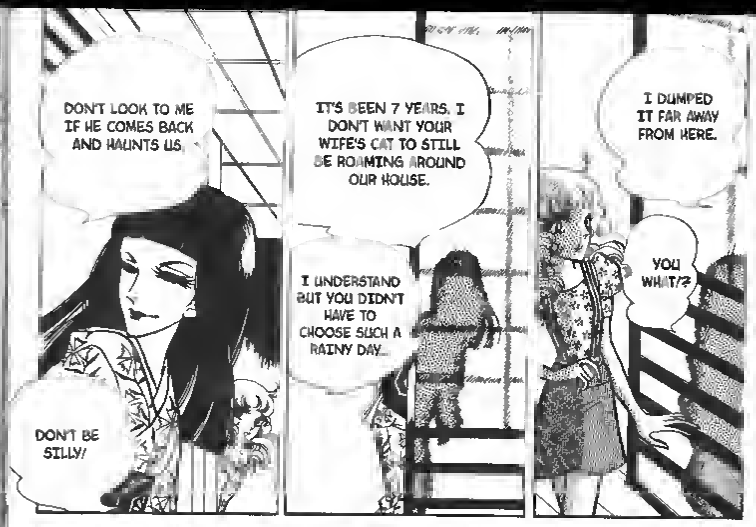
THANK YOU.
HERE YOU ARE, MY LORD!
FATHER!
YOUR AIM MUST BE TRUE.
FATHER!
PLEASE! PLEASE DON'T KILL ME!
NEKOMATAS EAT THEIR OWNERS ALIVE AND CURSE THE SURVIVING FAMILIES

STOMP
NGG....
BASTARD!
NNGGG...
ZISH
ZING
GO AFTER IT, GENPEI!
FORGIVE ME, AYA.
CREEEK
ZISH
FLING
NNNGGGGHHH!

THE TRACKS LEAD UNDER THERE.
HAH!
IT'S SUCH A PITY..
PRINCESS AYA
SLASH SLASH
YASUO TORII
鳥井康夫
THIS IS FROM THE ARROW THAT DAY.

AND SO GRACEFUL...
WOW! SHE'S BEAUTIFUL!
IT'S RAINING PRETTY HARD OUTSIDE.
I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE. WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
OH DEAR.
THANK YOU MA'AM. HOW LONG HAVE YOU TWO BEEN MARRIED?
IT'S JUST MITSUKO AND I LIVING HERE. WE HAVE ENOUGH EMPTY ROOMS TO START A HOTEL
PLEASE. WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU STAY
YOU GIRLS ARE WELCOME TO SPEND THE NIGHT HERE
OH - NO THANK YOU.

I THINK I'M GOING TO HAVE NIGHTMARES TONIGHT.
THAT WAS SO SCARY
I HOPE THE STORY WILL BE USEFUL TO YOU GIRLS.
IT'S TEN TIMES SCARIER TO HEAR A GHOST STORY AT THE PLACE WHERE IT HAPPENED
YOU GIRLS ARE LEAVING SO SOON?
WE SHOULD HEAD BACK HOME SOON.
IT WILL! WE'RE DOING A REPORT FOR HOMEWORK
THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING, SIR


DON'T LOOK TO ME IF HE COMES BACK AND HAUNTS US.
DON'T BE SILLY!
IT'S BEEN 7 YEARS. I DON'T WANT YOUR WIFE'S CAT TO STILL BE ROAMING AROUND OUR HOUSE.
I UNDERSTAND BUT YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO CHOOSE SUCH A RAINY DAY...
I DUMPED IT FAR AWAY FROM HERE.
YOU WHAT!?

SPLASH
ふっふっふ
HEHEHE...

MAYBE THIS HOUSE IS CURSED.
TWITCH
DON'T BE SILLY!
SHE'S ACTUALLY NOT MY WIFE YET.
OH.
OH MY!
MY WIFE HAS BEEN MISSING FOR 7 YEARS.
MAY I BORROW YOUR TELEPHONE PLEASE? I'D LIKE TO CALL MY PARENTS.
THANK YOU.
SURE, IT'S RIGHT BY THE ENTRANCE.
OH, THAT CAT?
MITSUKO, I HAVEN'T SEEN KOMA LATELY.

HEHE.. LOOKS TASTY, DOESN'T IT? WOULD YOU LIKE SOME DEAR?
I WAS THINKING OF FEEDING THIS KOI FISH TO THE GIRLS.
A KOI FROM OUR LAKE?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING!?
RECENTLY, I'VE BEGUN TO FEAR YOU...
WE CAN GET MARRIED...
YOUR WIFE'S MONEY IS ALL YOURS NOW.
YOU'RE SO CHICKEN-HEARTED HONEY
ほほほは
HHHHHHH...
IT'S FINALLY BEEN 7 YEARS
YOUR WIFE HAS BEEN MISSING FOR 7 YEARS SHE'S LEGALLY DEAD.

OH MY GOD.. I THOUGHT IT WAS PRINCESS AYA!

SURE! IF YOU BETRAY ME,
I FEAR THAT YOU'RE A NEKOMATA AND ARE GOING TO KILL ME...
THOSE CAT-LIKE EYES...
WHY?

WHAT! WOULD YOU HAVE RATHER ENDED YOUR LIFE WITH YOUR WIFE'S THUMB OVER YOU?
I WAS FOOLISH TO BE SEDUCED BY YOU
WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO?

OVER ME...
TIGHTER! STRANGLE HER!

KOMA.. KOMA!
ARRGGHH.. HOW COULD MY HUSBAND AND MAID KILL ME..?

I SHALL.. I SHALL TAKE REVENGE...

YOU'RE NOT HUMAN!
YOU'RE A NEKOMATA.
YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME!
I'M THROUGH! I'M THROUGH WITH YOU!
EEEE...
AAHHH!
I'D RATHER KILL MYSELF THAN STAY HERE AND BE KILLED BY YOU.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING? YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TELL THE WORLD ABOUT YOU-KNOW-WHAT, ARE YOU!?
HAHA!
AHHHHHH

ONE KOI CAN SWALLOW THIS CORPSE IN JUST A FEW GULPS.
THEY DON'T LOOK IT, BUT KOI ARE GREEDY LITTLE FEEDERS.
SPLASH
LOOK AT HIS MEAT DOESN'T HE LOOK TASTY?!
HAH!

A NEKOMATA!
IT'S AN EVIL SPIRIT!
I KNEW IT! SHE'S A NEKOMATA! HAH.. HAH!
DIE, YOU EVIL SPIRIT!
FLING
AAAAAAGGGHHHH!
SSST

THOSE EYES!
THOSE ARE CAT'S EYES!
ARRGGHH...
NOW THAT YOU KNOW ABOUT ME, I CAN'T RELEASE YOU FROM THIS HOUSE.
SHE'S COMING THIS WAY!

OVER...
THERE..
THAT CAT.. THAT'S PROBABLY THE CAT THAT WAS ABANDONED BY MITSUKO
WOBBLE
LEAP

LET'S GO.
THEY LEAD TO THE SWAMP.
WAIT, MINAKO! WAIT FOR ME!

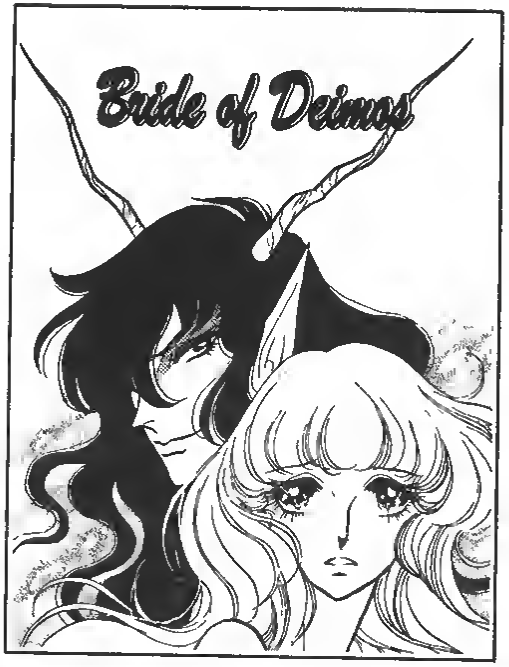
SPLASH
SPLASH
WATCH OUT!
A SCARF
UP
SWAY
ARE RISING
NEITHER THE CAT NOR MITSUKO
WHAT IS THAT? IT'S RED.
HM?
BLOOD?

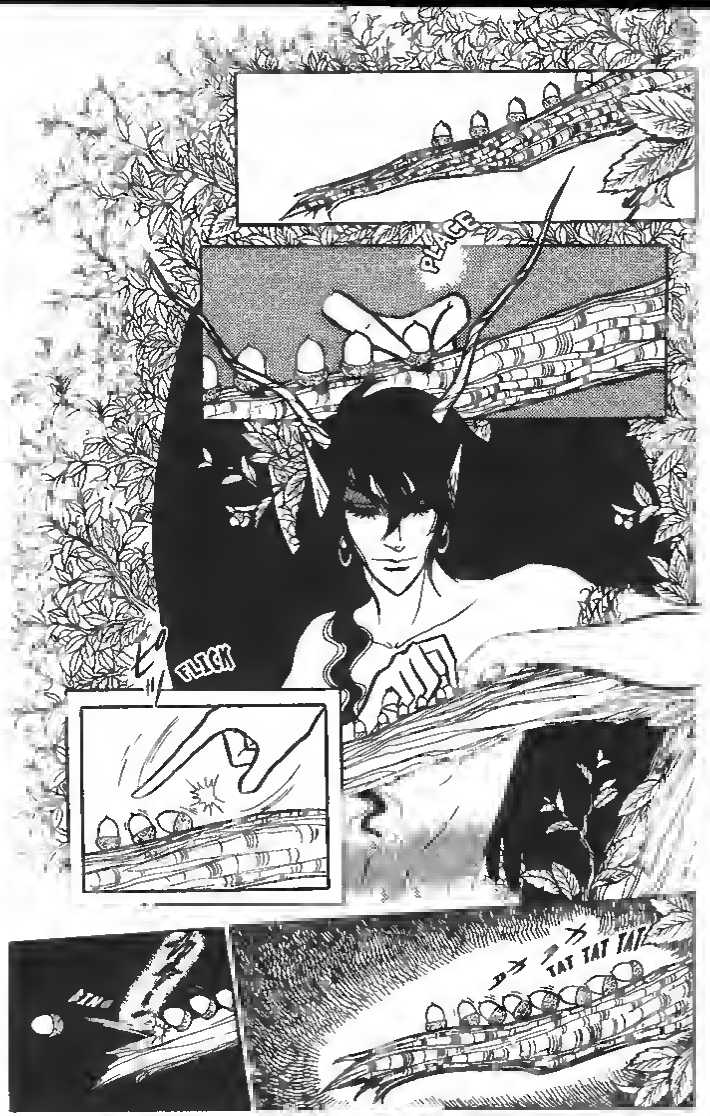
SO, SHE WAS A NEKOMATA POSSESSED BY THAT CAT.
CATS LOOK SO CUTE, BUT I GUESS THEY CAN BE QUITE DEVILISH
HE WAS TAKING REVENGE AGAINST MITSUKO

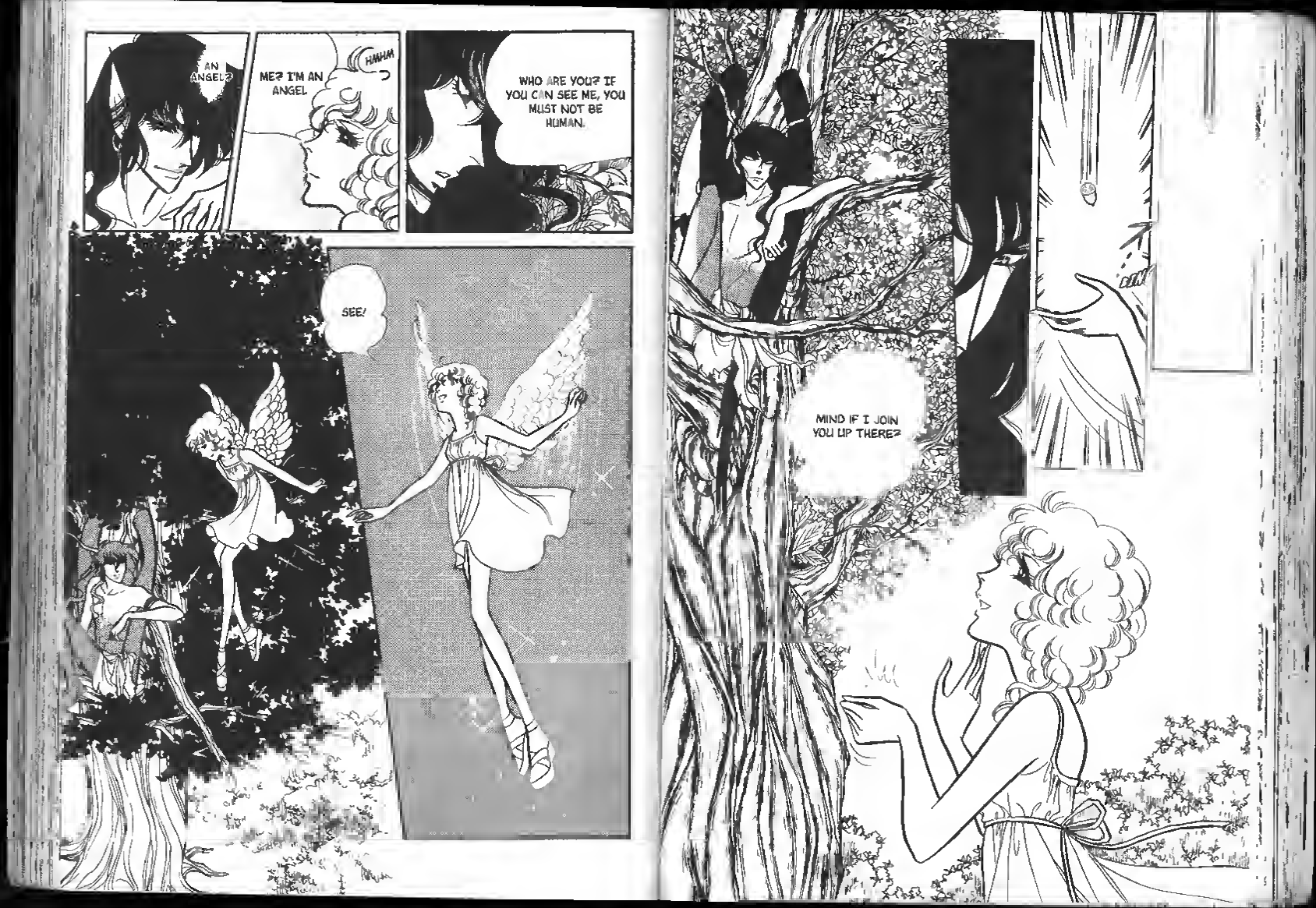
YOU'RE FAR FROM BEING ABLE TO ENJOY THE TASTE OF OIL.
FLING
HM? ARE YOU AFRAID OF ME?
HERS PROBABLY LOOKED LIKE BEAST EYES
NO, DEIMOS!
AHAHAHAHA...

DEIMOS!
ACK!
SNATCH
MEEOOWW
NO ONE CARRIES ON WITCH-HUNTS ANYMORE
TIMES HAVE CHANGED CATS DON'T CARRY SUPERNATURAL POWERS ANYMORE
A TUMOR...
BUT THAT WOMAN'S EYES WERE SHINING IN THE DARK LIKE A CAT'S
EYES ARE THE WINDOWS TO THE SOUL.
CERTAIN TUMORS CAN MAKE THE EYES SHINE THE WAY CAT'S EYES DO

STOLEN TIME

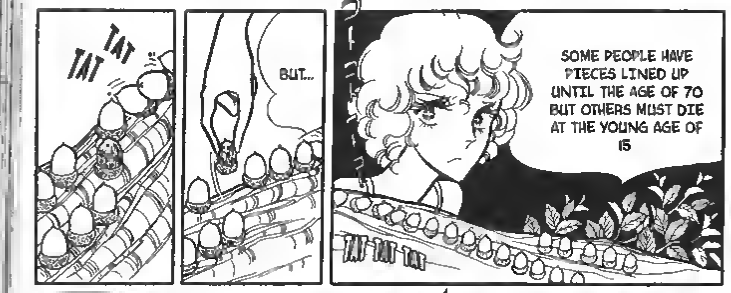

Bride of Deimos

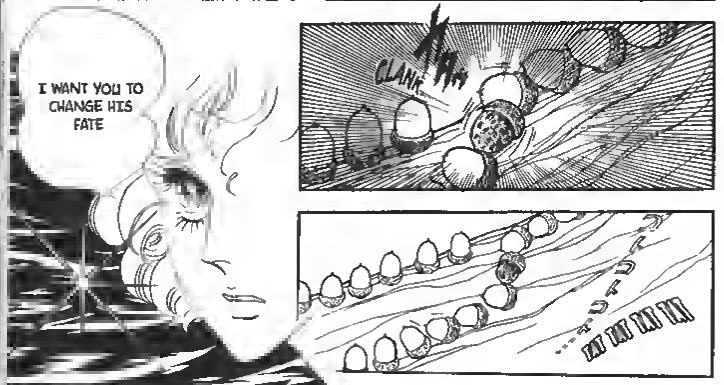

PLACE
FLICK
AIN
TAT TAT TAT

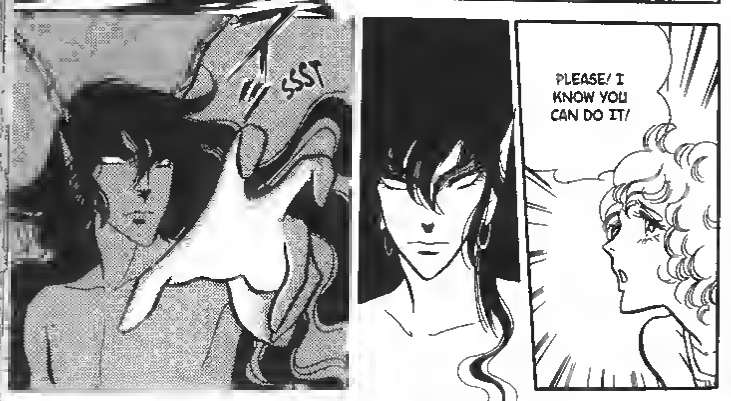

AN ANGEL?
ME? I'M AN ANGEL
HAHAHA
WHO ARE YOU? IF YOU CAN SEE ME, YOU MUST NOT BE HUMAN.
SEE!
MIND IF I JOIN YOU UP THERE?

IDIOT.
AN ANGEL AND A DEVIL ARE LIKE HEAVEN AND HELL
WE CLEARLY BELONG IN DIFFERENT WORLDS.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
YES... BUT...
I WANT TO BE YOUR FRIEND.
I THINK WE CAN RELATE TO EACH OTHER
WE BOTH FEEL SOMETHING FOR HUMANS
HMHM.
DON'T LOOK SO SCARY.

I HEARD A RUMOR
THAT YOU LEFT HADES TO FIND A BODY FOR VENUS
I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU COULD HELP ME
HMPH.
YOU'VE BECOME A PRISONER OF LOVE AND HAVEN'T RETURNED YET.
I'M IN LOVE AS WELL. I KNOW EXACTLY HOW YOU FEEL.


TAT
TAT
BUT...
SOME PEOPLE HAVE PIECES LINED UP UNTIL THE AGE OF 70 BUT OTHERS MUST DIE AT THE YOUNG AGE OF 15
TAT TAT TAT


I WANT YOU TO CHANGE HIS FATE
CLANK
TAT TAT TAT TAT


SSST
PLEASE! I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT!

A DOMINO EFFECT. THAT'S WHAT HUMAN LIFE IS.
FROM THE CRADLE TO THE GRAVE, THE PIECES ARE ALREADY SET IN PLACE.
I FIGURED IT WAS SOMETHING LIKE THAT
YOU MUST BE OUT OF YOUR MIND. TO THINK THAT I'D HELP OUT AN ANGEL.
TAT
ONE ACTION CAUSES A REACTION.
AND THAT REACTION CAUSES ANOTHER.
AND THE ONE WHO LINES UP THE PIECES IS GOD.
WHEN ALL THE PIECES HAVE BEEN KNOCKED DOWN ONE'S LIFE COMES TO AN END.
TAT TAT TAT TAT TAT

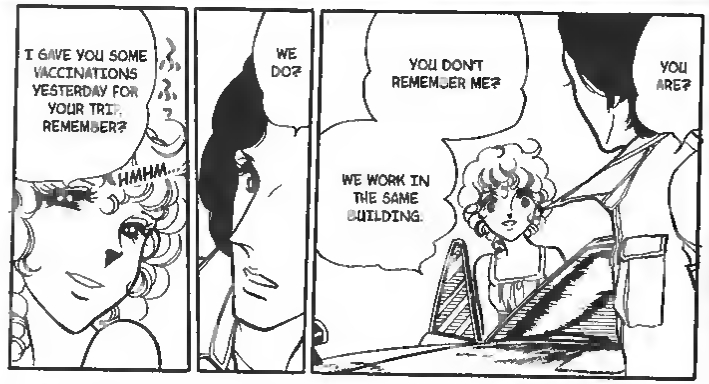
WHAT DO HIS PIECES TELL YOU?
HE'S GETTING READY TO GO TO THE AIRPORT. HE'S HEADING TO FRANCE TODAY ON FLIGHT 399

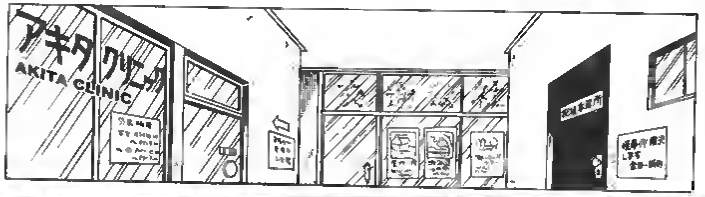
HE...
FLIGHT 399 WILL BEGIN DESCENDING AT 9PM BUT.. IT'LL FAIL TO LAND AND CRASH
HE..

I CAN'T LET THE ONE I LOVE DIE LIKE THAT!
PLEASE! CHANGE HIS FATE!
PLEASE STOP HIM FROM GETTING ON THAT PLANE!

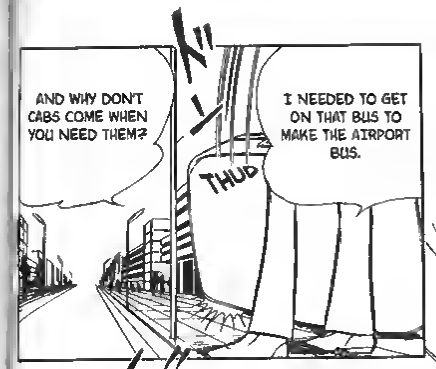
SLAM
CREEEK
CLONK
THAT'S JUNSUKE TANI ISN'T HE GORGEOUS?
I STILL HAVEN'T HAD THE CHANCE TO TALK TO HIM
HE'S A SKILLED ENGINEER

FLICK
FLING
IF IT'S GOD'S JOB TO SET THE PIECES IN PLACE...
IT'S MY JOB TO THROW THEM OUT OF LINE!
ZAP
GEEZ TALK ABOUT UNLUCKY. I HAVE A PLANE TO CATCH.
SNAP
I'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO TALK TO HIM!
I MOVED ONE OF HIS PIECES BACK ONE SPACE.
I STOLE 3 MINUTES OF HIS TIME.
THANK YOU DEIMOS! HIS LIFE WILL CHANGE COMPLETELY FROM HERE.
VVRROOOOH
LOSING 3 MINUTES WON'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE
I STILL HAVE TIME.


I GAVE YOU SOME VACCINATIONS YESTERDAY FOR YOUR TRIP. REMEMBER?
HMHM...
WE DO?
YOU DON'T REMEMBER ME?
YOU ARE?
WE WORK IN THE SAME BUILDING.


アキタクリニック
AKITA CLINIC

OH YEAH!
YOU'RE THE ANGEL IN WHITE!

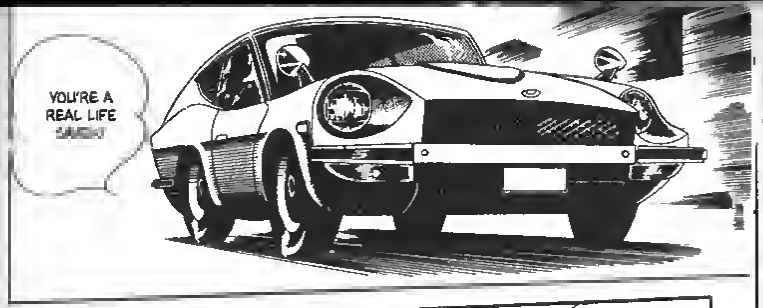

AND WHY DON'T CABS COME WHEN YOU NEED THEM?
THUD
I NEEDED TO GET ON THAT BUS TO MAKE THE AIRPORT BUS.

BEEP BEEP

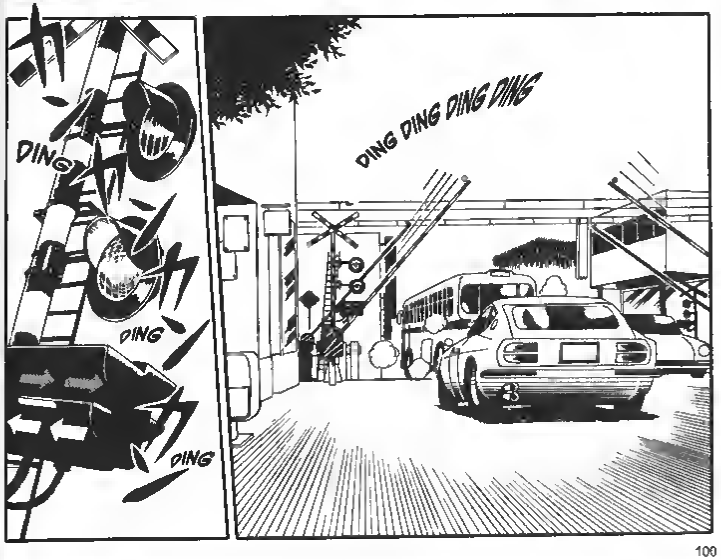
MR JUNSUKE TANI?
SHALL I DRIVE YOU TO THE AIRPORT?
TAIYO CO.
OHO PARLOR

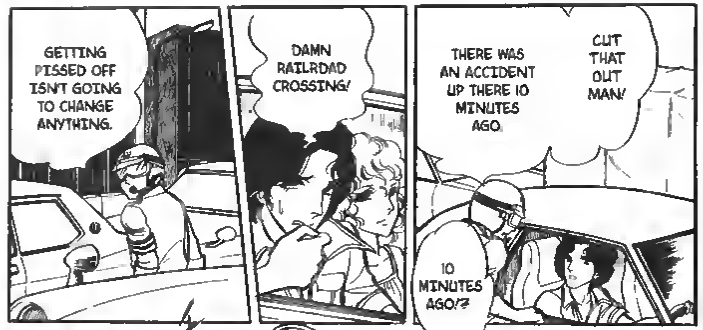
WHY DID MY SHOELACE HAVE TO BREAK LIKE THAT?!
COMICS
HEALTH
HEALTH

DING
DING DING DING
ゴー-VRRRRM
ゴー
REEEEE
REEEEE
IT'S AN AWFULLY LONG TRAIN
東 EAST


YOU'RE A REAL LIFE

LOOK, WE CAUGHT UP TO THE BUS I MISSED.
LIKE AN ANGEL IN MY TIME OF NEED/

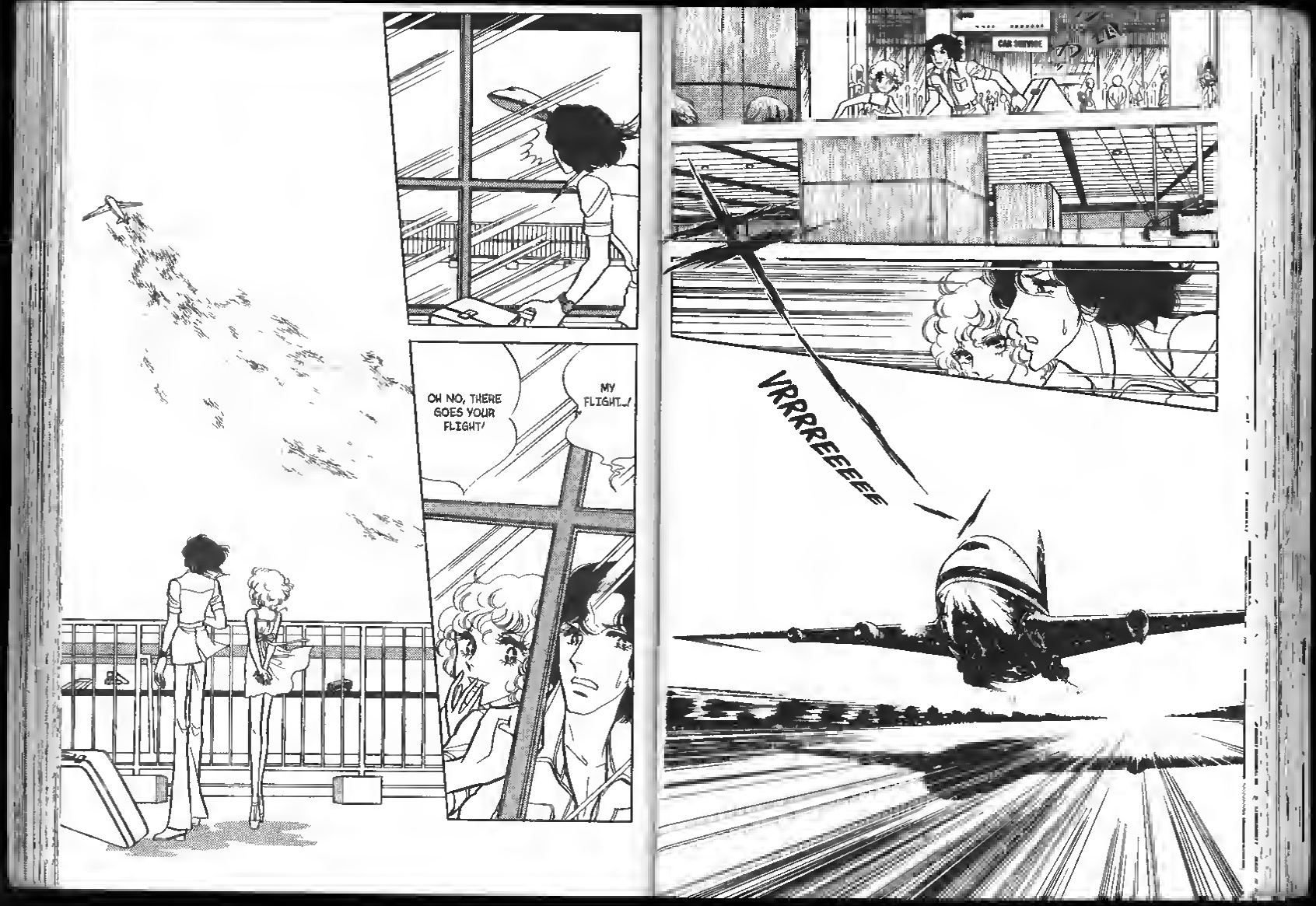

DING
DING
DING
DING DING DING DING

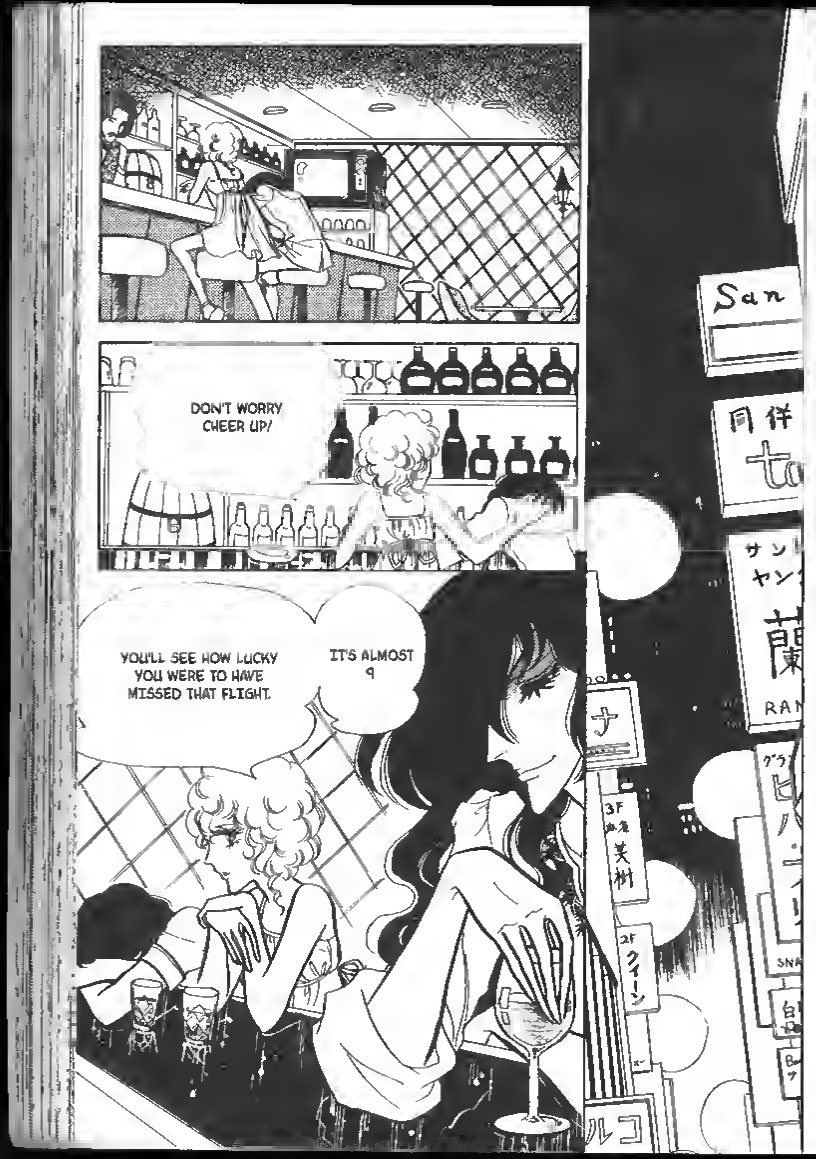

GETTING PISSED OFF ISN'T GOING TO CHANGE ANYTHING.
DAMN RAILROAD CROSSING!
THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT UP THERE 10 MINUTES AGO.
CUT THAT OUT MAN!
10 MINUTES AGO!?

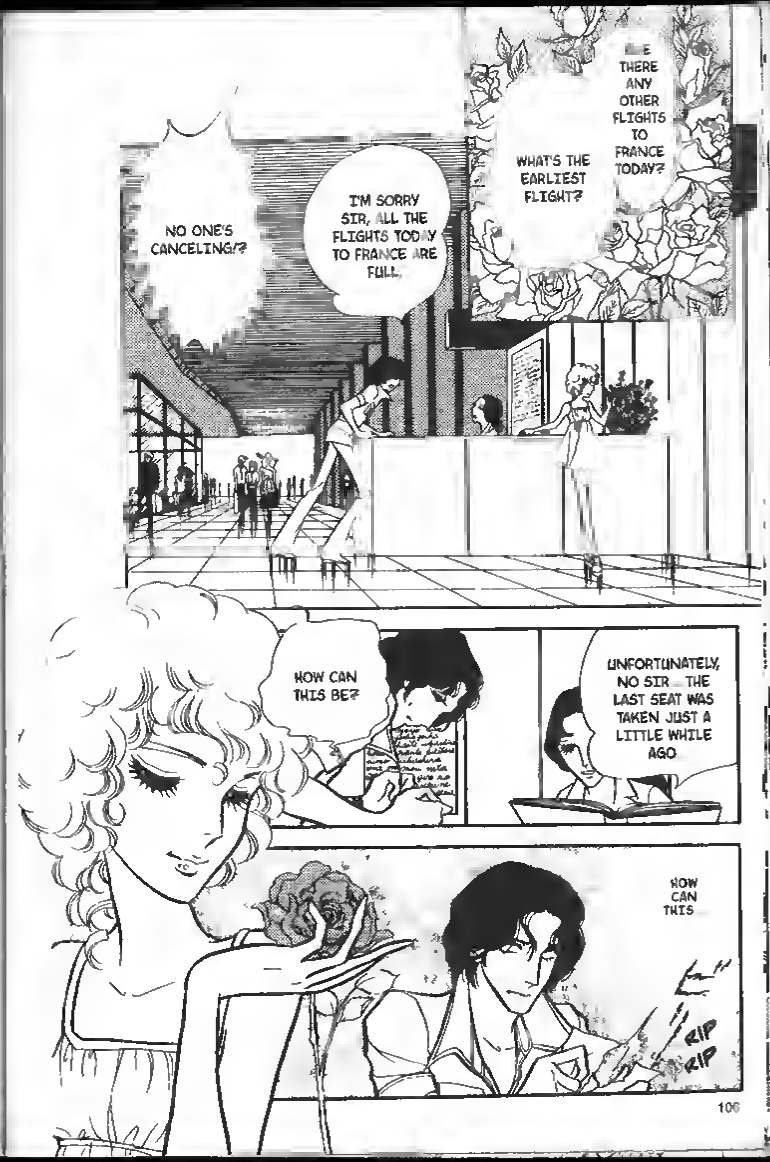
TICK TICK TICK TICK
AARRGH!
TICK TICK TICK
INTERNATIONAL DEPARTURES

HMHM
I'M 10 MINUTES BEHIND SCHEDULE!

DAMN IT!
BEEEEEP
BEEP BEEP


CAR SHRINK
VRRRREEEEE
MY FLIGHT../
OH NO, THERE GOES YOUR FLIGHT!


DON'T WORRY CHEER UP!
YOU'LL SEE HOW LUCKY YOU WERE TO HAVE MISSED THAT FLIGHT.
IT'S ALMOST 9
San


NO ONE'S CANCELING!?
I'M SORRY SIR, ALL THE FLIGHTS TODAY TO FRANCE ARE FULL.
WHAT'S THE EARLIEST FLIGHT?
...E THERE ANY OTHER FLIGHTS TO FRANCE TODAY?
HOW CAN THIS BE?
UNFORTUNATELY, NO SIR... THE LAST SEAT WAS TAKEN JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO.
HOW CAN THIS...
RIP
RIP

ANGEL! GET OUT OF HERE WITH THE MAN YOU JUST SAVED!
SLAM
I SMELL DANGER!
HEY LOUIE YOU KICKING IT IN HERE AGAIN, EH?
HICCUP
I GUESS YOU WEREN'T TOO LUCKY ABOUT THIS ONE, BUDDY.
BUSES AND RAILROAD CROSSINGS ARE ALL FIRST COME FIRST SERVE.
TODAY IS MY LUCKY DAY.
YO, BOSSMAN, YOU LOOK HAPPY. WANT YER USUAL?
HICCUP
MADE A TIDY LITTLE PROFIT TODAY!
OI, PRETTY BOY! GET OUTTA OF MY SEAT!

I MISSED THAT FLIGHT. I'M WORTH NOTHING NOW. MY POSITION, MY SKILLS, EVERYTHING HAS GONE DOWN THE DRAIN
9 O'CLOCK! TOMORROW! A YEAR LATER! IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME! I HAVE NOTHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO ANYMORE!
STOP!
LOOKS LIKE THINGS TURNED OUT THE WAY YOU WANTED THEM TO, ANGEL.
YES. I OWE IT ALL TO YOU DEIMOS.
AND THEY WASTE THEIR TIME MOANING AND GROANING ABOUT TRIVIAL THINGS.
HUMANS ARE ALL PATHETIC.
THEY DON'T REALIZE HOW LUCKY THEY ARE TO BE GIVEN LIFE.

NO ONE SPEAKS TO ME LIKE THAT!
HICCUP
BASTARD! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!
あっはははは
AHAHAHA!
YOU DIDN'T MAKE IT IN TIME FOR THIS SEAT
SHINE
LITTLE BOY YOU SHOULD HAVE QUIETLY STEPPED AWAY IN THE FIRST PLACE
HICCUP
ZISH
ANGEL!

FLIGHT 399 HEADING TO FRANCE FROM HANEDA STOPPING OVER AT MOSCOW...
BREAKING NEWS
FAILED TO LAND AT THE PARIS AIRPORT...
CRASHED ONTO THE RUNWAY AND BURST INTO FLAMES...
NOPE.
ARE YOU SAYING THAT EITHER WAY HE WAS MEANT TO DIE AT 9?

AAAAH!
IT WASN'T ME! IT WASN'T ME!
IT'S 9!
I SAW WHAT YOU JUST DID. WHY DID YOU KILL HIM?

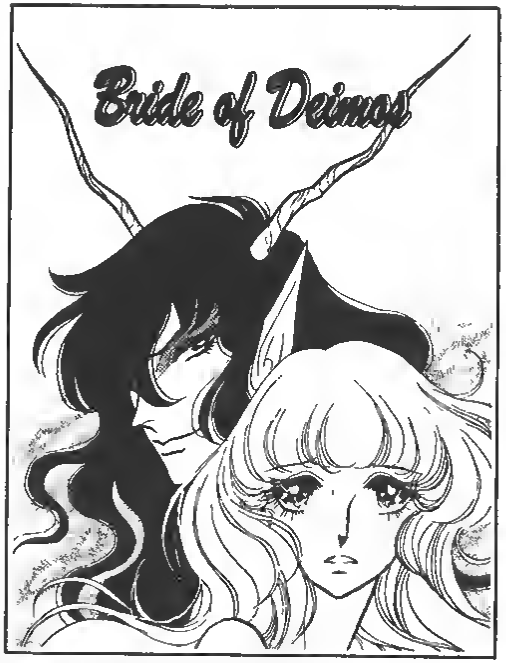
I DIDN'T WANT HIM TO SUFFER LIKE THAT. IT WAS BETTER FOR HIM TO DIE INSTANTANEOUSLY WHILE STILL YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL.
HE WOULD HAVE BEEN A VEGETABLE UNTIL THE AGE OF 62.
THIS RED ROSE MADE FROM HIS SPIRIT AND HIS BLOOD...
SHALL BE IN BLOOM FOREVER IN HEAVEN

MANY ARE IN SERIOUS BUT STABLE CONDITION. NO DEATHS HAVE BEEN REPORTED...
NO DEATHS!?
THERE'S MORE...
HE WOULD HAVE LIVED TIL 62.
HAD WE LET HIM ON THAT PLANE...
BUT HE WOULD HAVE SUFFERED FROM 3RD DEGREE BURNS. LOST HIS EYESIGHT AND HIS HEARING.
WHAT!

ANGEL..
ARE YOU SAYING THAT'S WHAT I'LL HAVE TO DO EVENTUALLY?
AND HUMANS CONSIDER YOU THE CLOSEST THING TO GOD..

SAVING THIS MAN'S SPIRIT BY KILLING HIM?
ANGEL...
IS THAT WHAT YOU GUYS DO?

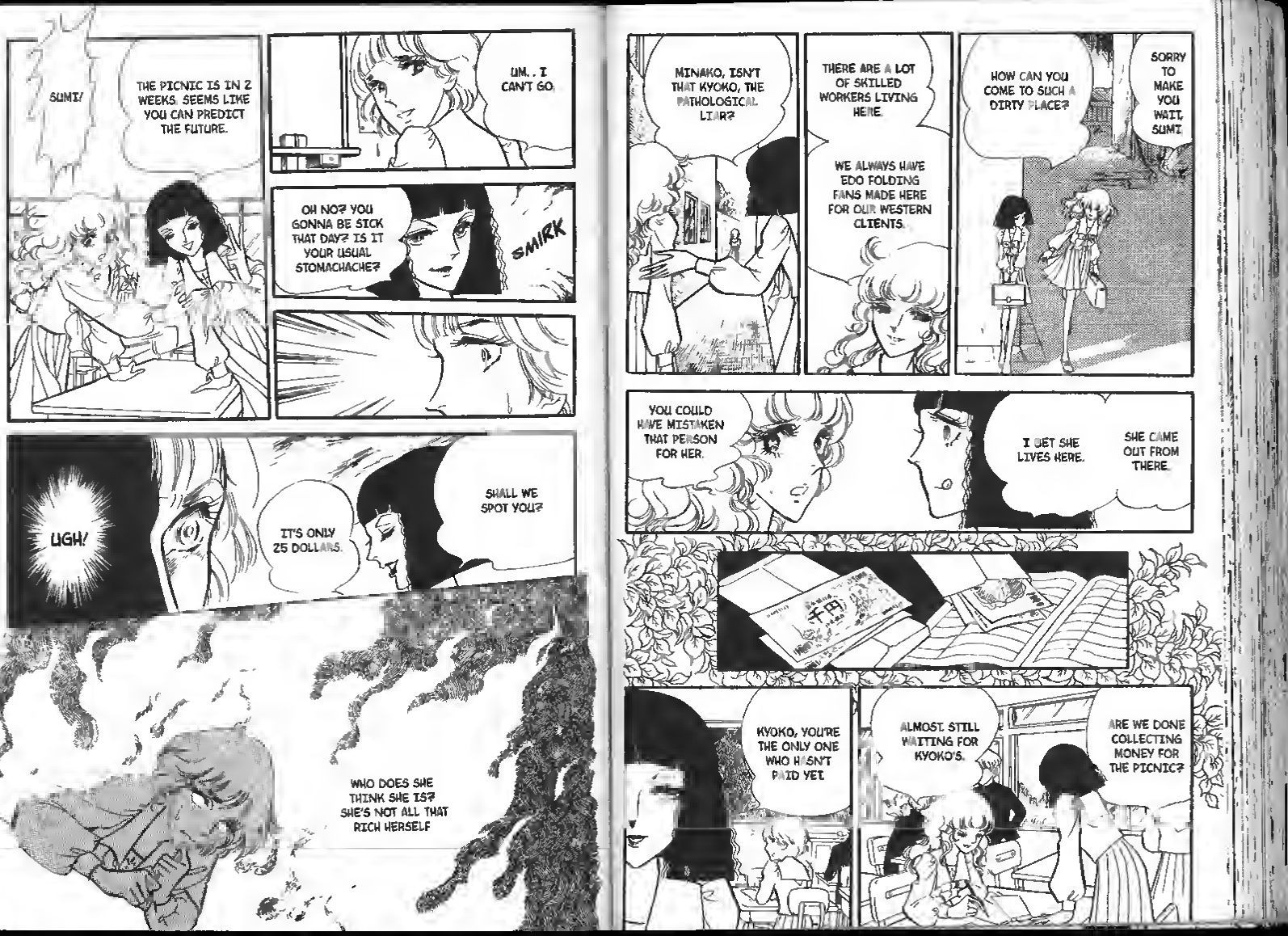
A LIE'S END



DO YOU MIND DROPPING THIS OFF AT THE MATSUKATA'S?
KYOKO.
I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO LIE AGAIN AND SAY I'M SICK.
TANGERINES
TELL HIM I'M SORRY IT'S A BIT LATE.
WE HAVE THE SAME LAST NAME AND YET HE'S THE FORMER NOBLE VISCOUNT.
AND WE'RE LIVING IN A RAT'S HOUSE BARELY MAKING ENOUGH TO EAT.
TOWEL
TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FIRE
YOU WANT ME TO TELL THEM THE TRUTH.. THAT WE'RE BROKE 'CAUSE DAD DRINKS AWAY ALL OUR MONEY!?
WE CARVE METAL
YOU BETTER NOT BE LYING AT SCHOOL!
KA-RA-RA-TA-TA-SHA
CRACKERS
TANGERINES
サンマンション
SUN MANSION
QUIT MAKING SO MUCH NOISE KYOKO! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
NO ONE STOLE IT.
KIZANURA
TAKARA ENOUCHUU
JAPANESE SPIRITS DISTILLED FROM SWEET POTATOES RICE, ETC
I HAD 25 DOLLARS SAVED UP FOR THE PICNIC SOMEONE STOLE IT!
IT'S EMPTY!

...NO...
DO YOU KNOW HER?
KYOKO...
STOMP STOMP STOMP
SHE NEVER STOPS LYING! ONE LIE AFTER ANOTHER!
SHE'S A HORRIBLE GIRL!
I DON'T BLAME HER. IT MUST BE HARD CARING FOR HER ALCOHOLIC FATHER.
I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY SHE'D WANT TO LIE TO HIDE THE TRUTH
光栄荘
KITANASO

BAM
MY FRIENDS WOULD ALL MAKE FUN OF ME!
EDO FOLDING FANS
EDO FOLDING FANS
ACK!
THE SOUND TRAVELS THROUGH THESE WALLS SO WELL...
APPLES
STOMP STOMP STOMP
OH NO I'M SORRY FOR PLACING A RUSH ORDER.
YOU COULD HAVE CALLED AND WE WOULD HAVE GONE TO PICK THEM UP.
IT MUST HAVE BEEN OUT OF YOUR WAY TO COME HERE


SUMI!
THE PICNIC IS IN 2 WEEKS. SEEMS LIKE YOU CAN PREDICT THE FUTURE.
UM.. I CAN'T GO.
OH NO? YOU GONNA BE SICK THAT DAY? IS IT YOUR USUAL STOMACHACHE?
SMIRK
UGH!
IT'S ONLY 25 DOLLARS.
SHALL WE SPOT YOU?
WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS? SHE'S NOT ALL THAT RICH HERSELF
MINAKO, ISN'T THAT KYOKO, THE PATHOLOGICAL LIAR?
THERE ARE A LOT OF SKILLED WORKERS LIVING HERE.
WE ALWAYS HAVE EDO FOLDING FANS MADE HERE FOR OUR WESTERN CLIENTS.
HOW CAN YOU COME TO SUCH A DIRTY PLACE?
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WAIT, SUMI
YOU COULD HAVE MISTAKEN THAT PERSON FOR HER.
I BET SHE LIVES HERE.
SHE CAME OUT FROM THERE.
KYOKO, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO HASN'T PAID YET.
ALMOST. STILL WAITING FOR KYOKO'S.
ARE WE DONE COLLECTING MONEY FOR THE PICNIC?

THEY KNOW!
ガタ
GAM
SUMI!
THAT'S?
THAT'S UH...
SUMI!
ADMIT IT! MINAKO SAW YOU TOO! SHE WAS THERE TO PICK UP A FOLDING FAN SHE HAD ORDERED.
THE CRAFTSMAN WE ORDER FROM LIVES THERE TOO
I WENT TO PICK UP SOMETHING HE MADE FOR ME
OH, WHAT A COINCI-DENCE.

A PARTY!?
THAT DAY... WE'RE UH.. HAVING A PARTY AT MY HOUSE SO . I CAN'T GO.
CALM DOWN. THINK OF SOMETHING!
SIGH
IN THAT RAT INFESTED HOUSE OF YOURS?
HAHA!
A PARTY!?
TWITCH
RAT INFESTED?!
I SAW YOU THIS MORNING! I SAW THE PLACE YOU CAME OUT OF
YEAH. IT'S A WELCOME BACK PARTY FOR MY COUSIN WHO WAS STUDYING PIANO ABROAD
I'M THE QUEEN OF LIES!

YOU'VE LIED WAY TOO MUCH TO US
YEAH!
WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOUR MANSION!
OH, WE'D LOVE THAT!
YOU SEE.
I HEARD THEIR MARRON GLACES ARE REALLY GOOD!
THAT'S SILLY. WHY DON'T WE JUST GO TO 'LE SHA' TODAY?
YOU DON'T NEED TO TRY AND HELP ME, MINAKO.
I'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU COME OVER TOO.
DO YOU HAVE RELATIONS WITH THE NOBLE FAMILY?
THIS IS THE FORMER NOBLE VISCOUNT MATSUKATA'S CREST!
YEAH
WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT'S BEAUTIFUL, NO?
I'M THE DAUGHTER OF MATSUKATA.
I DIDN'T WANT TO BRAG ABOUT IT SO I KEPT QUIET. BUT...
ONE BROOCH ISN'T PROOF THAT YOU'RE THE DAUGHTER OF A FORMER VISCOUNT.
NICE JOB, TRYING TO PULL THAT ONE OFF.
WHAT AM I SAYING? I'M TAKING THIS TOO FAR!
SHALL I INVITE YOU TO OUR MANSION?

IT'S THE SAME CREST AS THE ONE ON THE PIN
PLEASE TELL ME THE DOOR IS LOCKED. THAT WAY I CAN MAKE UP SOME EXCUSE...

WHY DID I LIE LIKE THAT?
WHAT'S WRONG, KYOKO? YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD
THERE'S NO TURNING BACK NOW
BUT I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE
NO!
WE SHOULD GO HOME.
WE JUST WANT TO SEE IF YOU'RE ACTUALLY THE DAUGHTER OF THE FORMER VISCOUNT MATSUKATA
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I JUST FEEL LIKE WE'RE INTRUDING

SSST
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THUMP THUMP THUMP
THUMP THUMP
I DON'T CARE IF THEY FIND OUT SHOULD I RUN?
SILENCE

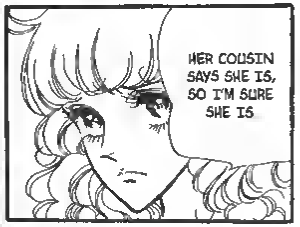
IT'S OPEN!
CREEEEK
TWITCH
PLEASE... LET IT BE LOCKED...
I WAS EXPECTING THE MAID TO OPEN THE DOOR...
WHAT ARE YOU FREAKING OUT ABOUT? ISN'T THIS YOUR OWN HOME?
IT'S COMING FROM OVER THERE
WOW! LOOK AT THIS HOUSE!
S... SURE...
CAN WE COME IN?
SOMEONE'S PLAYING THE PIANO!
FOR US..

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, DEIMOS?
YEAH.
THE MATSUZAKA'S ARE ALL MUSICALLY TALENTED.
YOU PLAY THE PIANO KYOKO? I NEVER KNEW THAT!
KYOKO, WHY DON'T YOU ENTERTAIN THESE GIRLS WITH YOUR PIANO?
WHY..?
I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR HER PLAY
WELL THEN...
WHY DON'T I GET YOU GUYS SOMETHING TO DRINK FIRST

WHAT?
HEY, KYOKO
DEIMOS!
GOOD AFTERNOON GIRLS.
I'M KYOKO'S COUSIN.
OH
I ARRIVED EARLY, SO EVERYONE ASKED ME TO STAY IN AND WATCH THE HOUSE
PHEW
THEY ALL WENT TRAVELING THE RICH LEAD NICE LIVES, DON'T THEY?

WE CAME HERE TO SEE IF KYOKO IS REALLY THE DAUGHTER OF THE FORMER VISCOUNT MATSUKATA.
YEAH BUT...
WE SHOULD GO, GIRLS

I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING THAT'LL CONVINCE YOU.
WHY DON'T YOU GIRLS STAY A LITTLE LONGER?


HER COUSIN SAYS SHE IS, SO I'M SURE SHE IS.

GO AHEAD... OPEN IT, KYOKO.
THIS ONE WILL DO
IN THIS PUZZLE BOX IS THE KEY TO THE MATSUZAKA'S TREASURE, THEIR WINE CELLAR.
I'M SURE THE DAUGHTER KNOWS HOW TO OPEN THE BOX.

CRUSH
CLANK
KYOKO!

YOU WOULD EVEN CUT YOUR OWN HAND TO SAVE A LIE?
NO.

I'M OKAY.

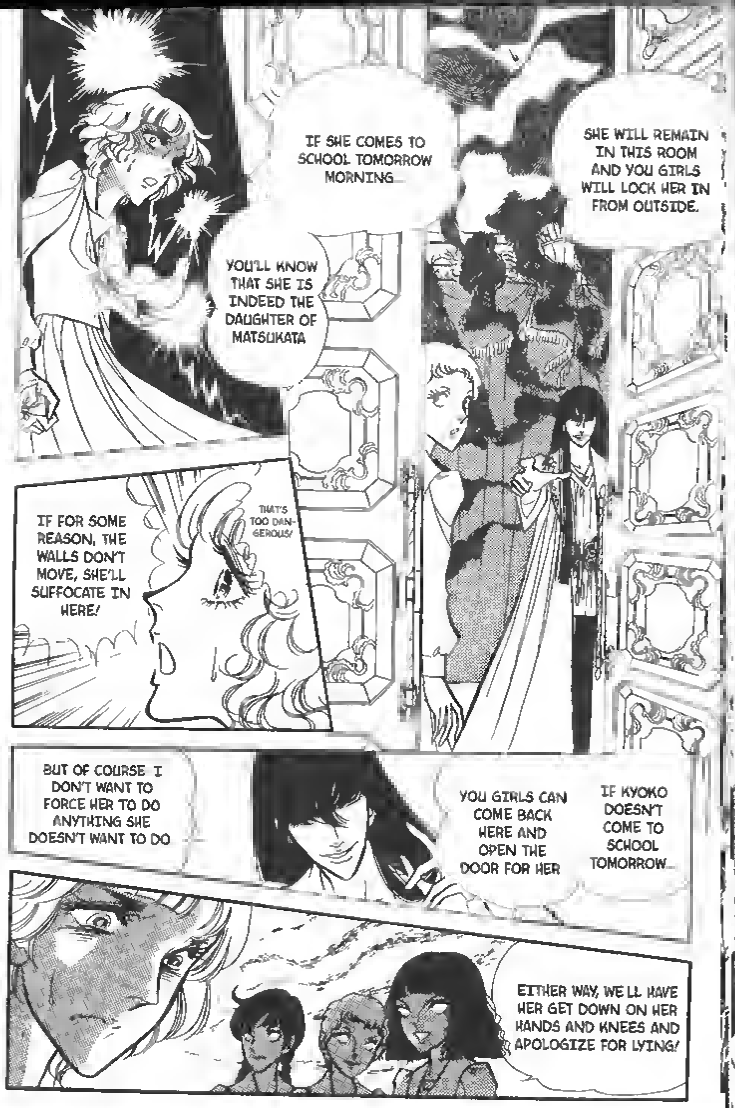
BUT YOU CAN'T PLAY THE PIANO WITH THAT HAND
????

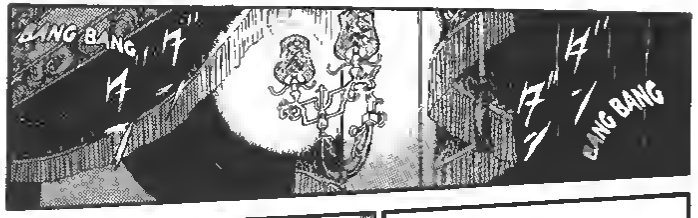
YOU MAY THINK YOU'RE HELPING HER, BUT YOU'RE NOT.
JUST TO LET YOU KNOW.
YOU CAN LEAVE IT. I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.
A SILLY LIE AT FIRST...
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO TO KYOKO!?
OFF THE CLIFF OF RUIN!
WILL ESCALATE AND GROW TO BECOME LIKE A BIG SNOWBALL.
I'M TRYING TO HELP HER PUSH THAT SNOWBALL...

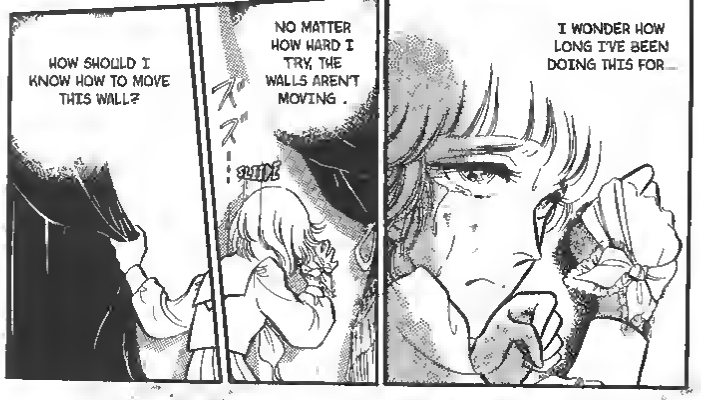
ACK!
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL BOX! CAN I SEE IT?
CLONK
SMASH
OH NO! I'M SO SORRY

THERE'S A SECRET PASSAGEWAY BEHIND THESE WALLS
THIS ROOM WAS BUILT BY OUR ANCESTORS TO PROTECT THE FAMILY
FROM TERRORISTS AND OTHER INTRUDERS.
SEE THE CRACK IN THE WALL? THIS LEADS US TO THE PASSAGEWAY
THE DAUGHTER OF THIS HOUSE WOULD KNOW HOW TO ESCAPE FROM HERE
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, KYOKO?
Y... YES.
WHO IS THIS MAN..?
MINAKO! WHAT ARE YOU TWO TALKING ABOUT OVER THERE?
DEIMOS!
BAM!
FOLLOW ME.
GIRLS, I THOUGHT OF ANOTHER WAY TO PROVE MY COUSIN'S IDENTITY TO YOU
WHAT A STRANGE ROOM. THERE'S NO WINDOWS

SHUT UP AND GET OUT OF HERE!
KYOKO!
I KNOW THIS HOUSE LIKE THE BACK OF MY HAND
I CAN GET OUT OF HERE!
KYOKO...
HAH!
GOOD LUCK.


IF SHE COMES TO SCHOOL TOMORROW MORNING...
YOU'LL KNOW THAT SHE IS INDEED THE DAUGHTER OF MATSUKATA
SHE WILL REMAIN IN THIS ROOM AND YOU GIRLS WILL LOCK HER IN FROM OUTSIDE.
IF FOR SOME REASON, THE WALLS DON'T MOVE, SHE'LL SUFFOCATE IN HERE!
THAT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
BUT OF COURSE I DON'T WANT TO FORCE HER TO DO ANYTHING SHE DOESN'T WANT TO DO
YOU GIRLS CAN COME BACK HERE AND OPEN THE DOOR FOR HER
IF KYOKO DOESN'T COME TO SCHOOL TOMORROW...
EITHER WAY, WE'LL HAVE HER GET DOWN ON HER HANDS AND KNEES AND APOLOGIZE FOR LYING!

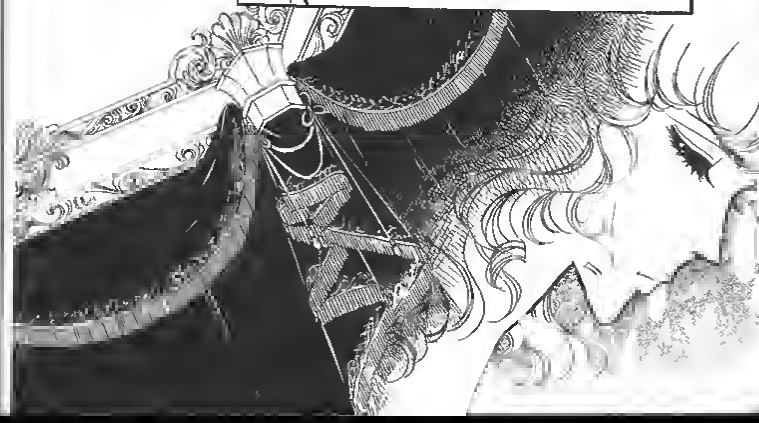

BANG BANG
BANG BANG


HOW SHOULD I KNOW HOW TO MOVE THIS WALL?
NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY, THE WALLS AREN'T MOVING.
SLIDE
I WONDER HOW LONG I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR...

I HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL TOMORROW! OTHERWISE THEY'LL ALL KNOW THAT I'VE LIED!
BUT I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE.
I DON'T WANT TO BE CALLED A LIAR!
NO!

HERE'S THE MASTER KEY AS WELL.
TURN
SLAM

CLANK


PLEASE LET HER BE SAFE...

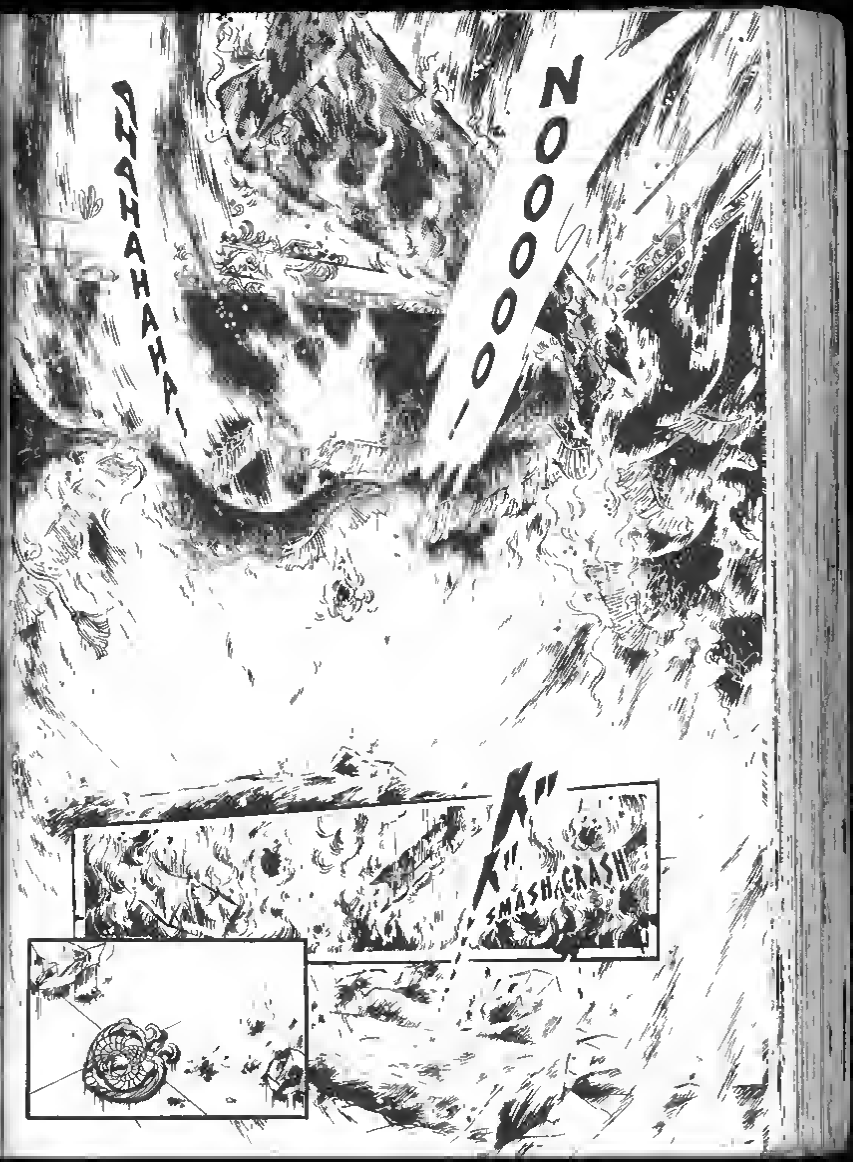
I WON'T BE LABELED A LIAR!
FSSSHHH
THERE IS A WAY! ONE WAY!
LOOK EVERYONE! I'M THE DAUGHTER OF A FORMER VISCOUNT!
AHAHAHA
THAT'S WHY I WAS ABLE TO GET MYSELF OUT OF THERE!
PROP

CLONK
I DON'T CARE ANYMORE
HEH
RIGHT NOW I HAVE TO FOCUS ON HOW TO PROTECT MYSELF FROM BEING BRANDED A LIAR
THERE HAS TO BE A WAY.
A WAY THAT WON'T MAKE ME A LIAR...
WHO WAS THAT MAN WHO CLAIMED TO BE MY COUSIN?
THAT MAN WHO SEEMED TO BE HELPING ME, BUT HE SHOVED ME IN THIS ROOM...

NO ONE SHALL GRIEVE.
IF YOUR DREAM IS REALITY, NO ONE SHALL SUFFER
PLEASE WAIT! HELP ME OUT OF HERE!
ANYTHING BUT THAT!
YOU THINK YOUR LIE WILL BE SAVED EVEN AFTER YOUR DEATH?
ANYONE CAN LOOK UP A FAMOUS FAMILY'S FAMILY TREE.
VRRROOOOO
EVEN AS A CORPSE.
WHEN YOU WAKE UP FROM YOUR DREAM, YOU'LL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO RETURN TO YOUR RAT INFESTED HOUSE.
NO.

I...
BUT IN THE END THERE'LL BE A FIRE AND I...
WHAT?
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT IDEA.
HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?
VRRRRRRR

GARDEN OF TREASON


NOOOOO!
AHAHAHA!
K''
K'' SMASH!! CRASH!!

ON OLYMPUS, HIGH ABOVE THE CLOUDS, THEY PRAISE THE GREAT JUPITER!
THE GODS SING AND DANCE AROUND AMBROSIA AND NECTAR
JINGLE JINGLE
JINGLE
THE TIME OF FERTILITY.
TAP
BACCHUS & HIS MAIDENS RUN THROUGH THE FIELDS AND UP THE MOUNTAINS
THE SOURCE OF THEIR DELIGHT IS THE CELEBRATION OF ANOTHER FRUITFUL HARVEST
WITH EXTREME DELIGHT!
JINGLE JINGLE
TO PRAISE THE GODDESS OF AGRICULTURE, CERES
THE TIME OF FERTILITY. THE CELEBRATION OF FERTILITY.

JUNO ISN'T FOND OF THOSE BRIGHT-EYED TWINS.

APOLLO
THE TIME OF FERTILITY.
A BANQUET FOR THE GODS
JUNO LOOKS A BIT DISTRESSED, NO?
THOSE GIRLS.
YOU SEE THOSE GIRLS WITH JUPITER.

YOUR ENTIRE LIFE HAS BECOME A RETRIBUTION OF LOVE.
DEAR BROTHER.
VENUS...
DO YOU REGRET FALLING IN LOVE WITH ME?
NO ONE IMAGINED THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GODDESS COULD END UP LOOKING SO UGLY.
HEH... I DON'T BLAME YOU.
A WRETCHED YET FEARFUL EXISTENCE!
DEIMOS BEARS ALL FEAR AND EVIL ON HIS SHOULDERS.
SPLASH
IS THIS WHERE RUINED YOUNG GODDESSES AND NYMPHS REMAIN?
THIS IS THE GARDEN OF EDEN, OLYMPUS.
A COMPENSATION FOR DYING FOR LOVE?

YOU'RE NOT ONE TO CRY OVER SPILLED MILK, VENUS
I WOULD NEVER HAVE SENT YOU TO THE HUMAN WORLD.
HAD I KNOWN THAT YOU WERE GOING TO FALL IN LOVE WITH THAT GIRL SO EASILY.
I SHOULD NEVER HAVE DESIRED A HUMAN BODY
I SHOULD NEVER HAVE LET YOU GO.
I WANT YOUR LOVE TO BE MINE.
AAAH, I WANT TO BE BEAUTIFUL AGAIN.

YOU GAVE ME HOPE.
YOUR HOPE HAS HELPED ME LOOK INTO THE BRIGHT FUTURE AND WITHSTAND THE HORRIFIC IN HELL.

THAT'S NOT IT!
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE THAT DISGUSTED BY ME
I...

ISN'T WHAT I WANT!
A LOVE LIKE THIS WHERE WE PITY EACH OTHER...

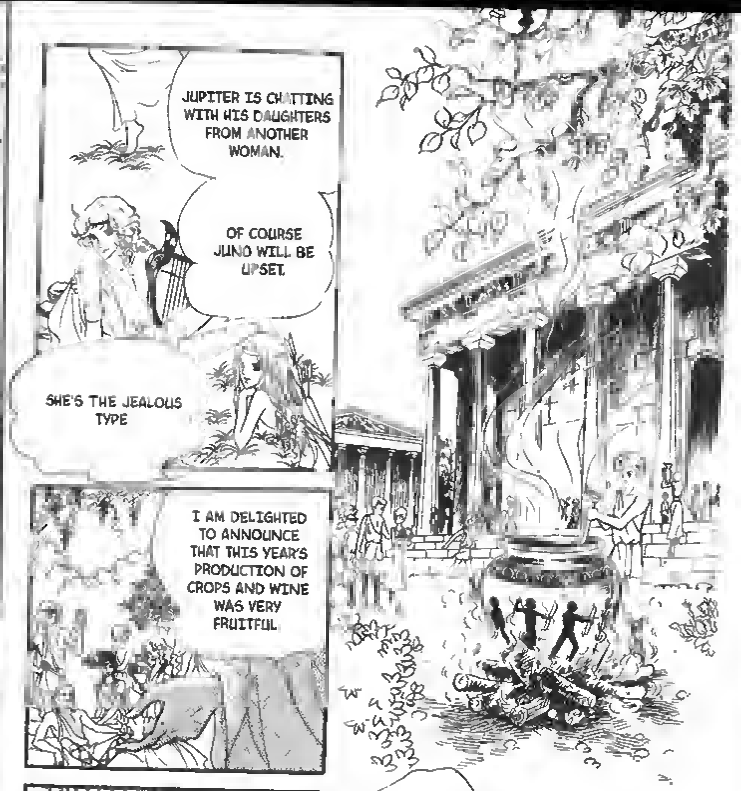
NO MATTER WHAT DIVINE PUNISHMENT MY LOVE SHALL INCUR...
MY LOVE MUST BE THE KING OF ALL LOVES!

THEN LOOK!

STOP IT!
WE WOULD HAVE BEEN PERFECT TOGETHER. THE FEARFUL DEMON AND THE RUINED GODDESS!

A BANQUET CELEBRATING FERTILITY WAS BEING HELD AT OLYMPUS
THEY LOOK DELICIOUS!
VENUS.
VENUS... MY POOR SISTER.
HAD YOU NEVER FALLEN IN LOVE WITH ME, YOU WOULD HAVE ALL THE WORLD'S LOVE AND BEAUTY IN YOUR HANDS...
WHO CARES ABOUT A STUPID FEAST!

HAS YOUR BODY GONE ROTTEN...
YOU THINK AN UGLY GODDESS IS A PERFECT MATCH FOR THE FEARFUL DEVIL!?
TOGETHER WITH YOUR EXALTED HEART?
A LOVE THAT I CAN BE PROUD OF A LOVE UNOBSCURED BY CLOUDS.
OUR LOVE MUST BE THE WORLD'S PROUDEST LOVE!
NO DEIMOS NO
THE KING OF ALL LOVES, THAT SHALL REIGN OVER ALL THE OTHERS!
MY FACE HAS BECOME BEASTLY, BUT WHAT'S MORE UGLY IS MY SUSPICIOUS AND JEALOUS HEART.
I'M SORRY I WAS WRONG.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE DOUBTED YOU WHAT WAS I THINKING?


JUPITER IS CHATTING WITH HIS DAUGHTERS FROM ANOTHER WOMAN.
OF COURSE JUNO WILL BE UPSET.
SHE'S THE JEALOUS TYPE
I AM DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THIS YEAR'S PRODUCTION OF CROPS AND WINE WAS VERY FRUITFUL.
THEY HAVE BEEN UNDER THE CARE OF THEIR MOTHER UNTIL NOW.
I AM ALSO DELIGHTED TO INTRODUCE OUR HOUSE'S PRIDE— OUR TWIN DAUGHTERS.

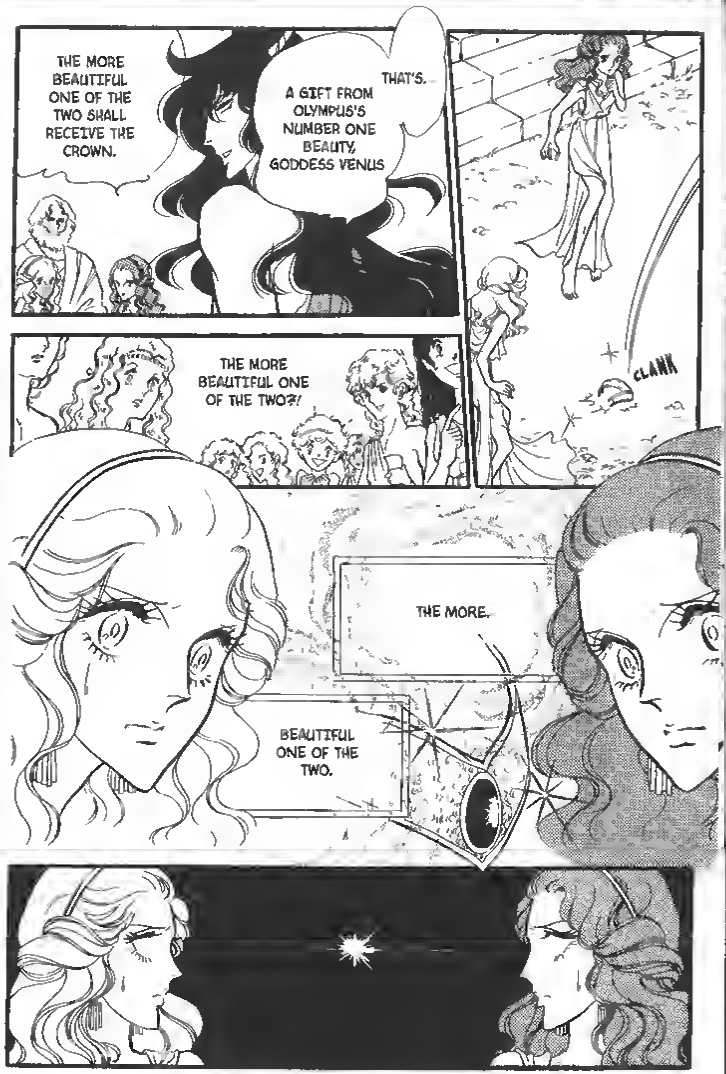
I'M A DEMON!
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU DEIMOS?
YES I AM!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH WALKING OVER OLYMPUS'S GARDEN WITH THESE FEET?
TO GIVE THEM A LITTLE TASTE OF WHAT MY POOR SISTER IS SUFFERING
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT!?
MY CALLOUSED BARE FEET COVERED IN HELL'S SOIL ARE LIVING FOOTPRINTS OF FEAR AND EVIL!

ZISH
CAN YOU TWO KNEEL FOR THEIR BLESSINGS?
FABULOUS
YES.
YOU! REVEAL YOURSELF!
A SYMBOL OF MIS-FORTUNE.
A BLACK FEATHER!

CHLOE AND GRATIA, DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER, OKAY?
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY AMOROUS GOD!
YES, INDEED
BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS ATTRACT BUGS SO WE MUST WATCH OVER YOU TWO CAREFULLY
ALLOW US TO PRESENT A WELCOMING GIFT TO OUR NEW GODDESSES!
ALLOW US!
FATHER, I'M GRATIA.
AND I'M CHLOE.
YOU'RE BOTH BEAUTIFUL! BOTH EQUALLY LOVELY!
HM?
YOU TWO LOOK SO ALIKE.

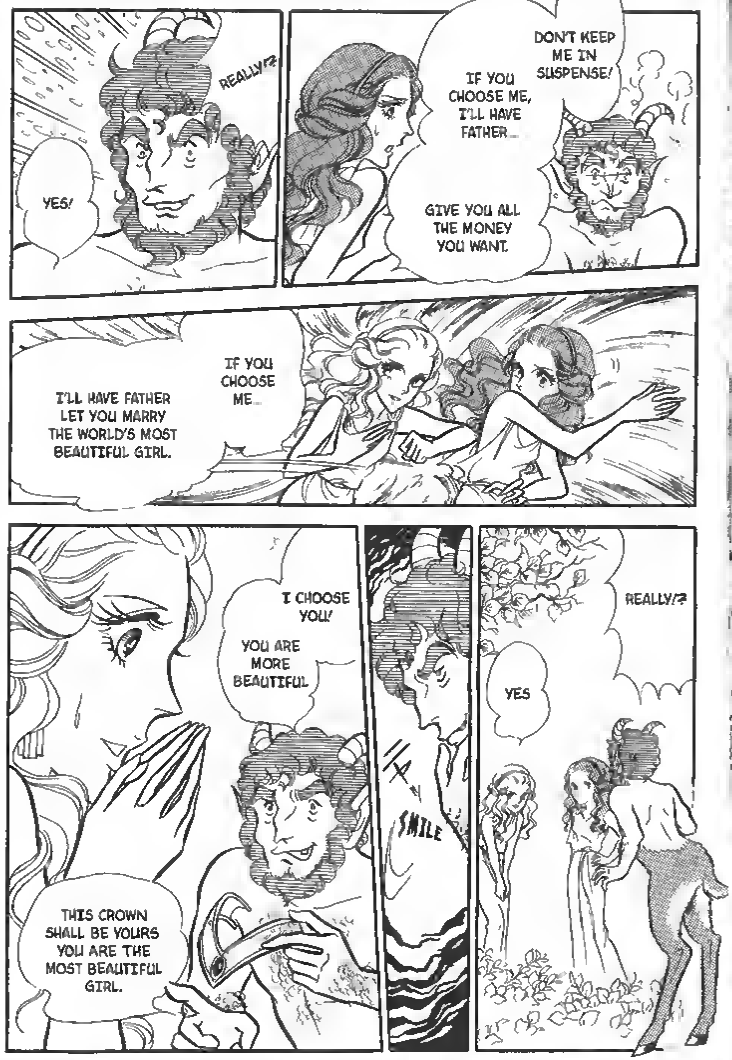
THAT'S
VENUS'S CROWN!
HERE!
THE FIRST GIFT SHALL BE FROM ME!
YOU HAVE BEEN EXILED FROM OLYMPUS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
DEIMOS!
I AM AN UNINVITED GUEST.
BAM
!!

NO! YOU LET GO! IT'S MINE!
LET GO! IT'S MINE!
ZZP!
CHLOE!
GRATIA!
NO! JUST LIKE OUR HAIR COLOR IS DIFFERENT..
OUR BEAUTY CAN'T BE THE SAME!
EVERYONE'S WATCHING!
I'M NOT LETTING GO!
DIDN'T I JUST TELL YOU THAT YOU'RE BOTH BEAUTIFUL! BOTH EQUALLY LOVELY!


THE MORE BEAUTIFUL ONE OF THE TWO SHALL RECEIVE THE CROWN.
THAT'S...
A GIFT FROM OLYMPUS'S NUMBER ONE BEAUTY, GODDESS VENUS
CLANK
THE MORE BEAUTIFUL ONE OF THE TWO?!
THE MORE...
BEAUTIFUL ONE OF THE TWO.

HAVE A THIRD PERSON DECIDE.
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IN THIS SITUATION?
THE MADAM OF OLYMPUS.
YOU MUST HAVE COMPETED AGAINST ATHENA AND VENUS IN THE PAST.
FOR ALL WOMEN, HER LOOKS ARE HER LIFE. NOW GIRLS, GO INTO THE WOODS AND ASK SATYROS
HE SHALL DECIDE WHO IS MORE BEAUTIFUL.

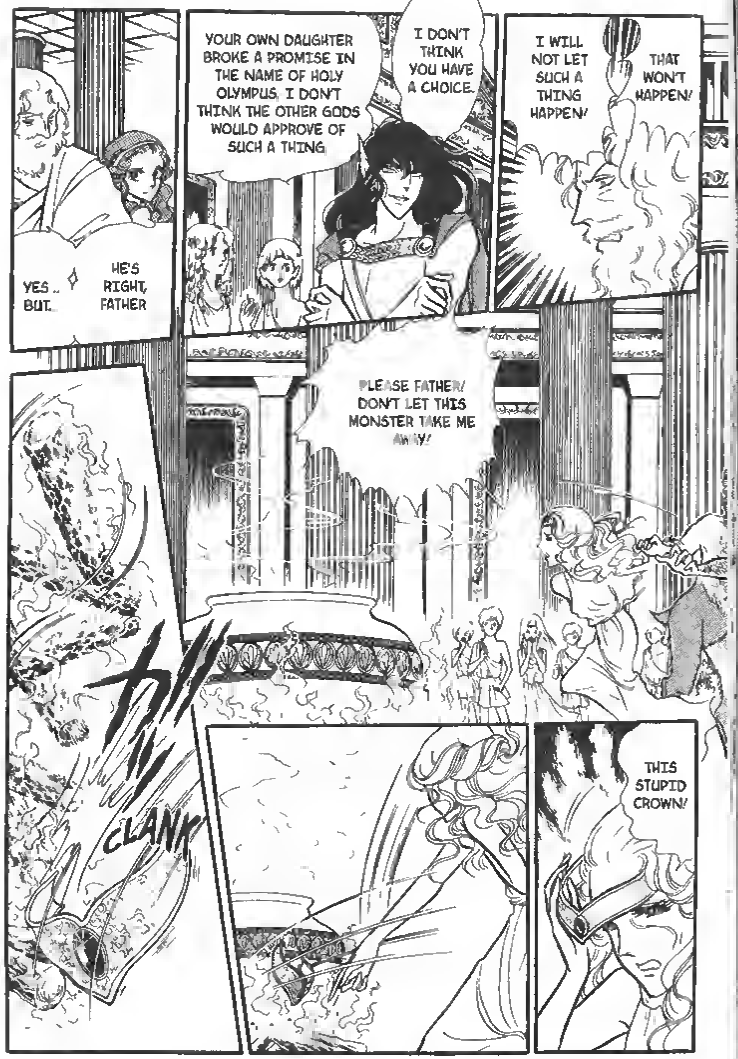
HURRY AND DECIDE!
WHO'S MORE BEAUTIFUL?
MY EYES ARE VIOLET.
WELL... IT'S VERY DIFFICULT.
MY EYES ARE THE COLOR OF A FORGET-ME-NOTS.
DON'T I HAVE THE CUTEST BUTT?
MY BREASTS ARE MUCH NICER.


REALLY!?
YES!
DON'T KEEP ME IN SUSPENSE!
IF YOU CHOOSE ME, I'LL HAVE FATHER...
GIVE YOU ALL THE MONEY YOU WANT.
IF YOU CHOOSE ME...
I'LL HAVE FATHER LET YOU MARRY THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL.
I CHOOSE YOU!
YOU ARE MORE BEAUTIFUL
THIS CROWN SHALL BE YOURS YOU ARE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL.
SMILE
REALLY!?
YES

I CAN'T WAIT TO SHOW EVERYONE MY NEW CROWN!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU I'M MORE BEAUTIFUL?
UGH!
DOESN'T THIS SUIT ME?
I AM SO MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN YOU!
HOLD IT!
I DON'T THINK SO! YOU'RE MINE NOW!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? LET ME GO!

THAT'S WHY I CHOSE YOU
YOU PROMISED, THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL, WILL BE MY WIFE
WHAT!?
NOW DO AS YOU PROMISED.
NO! WHO WANTS TO BE WITH YOU!?
HEHEHE... HOW AMUSING!
AHAHAHAHA!
HAS FOUND A PERFECT MATCH!
THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL...
HE SUITS YOU VERY WELL, CHLOE.

NO! LET ME GO!
A PROMISE IS A PROMISE
WE SHALL NOW EXCHANGE VOWS IN FRONT OF EVERYONE
WHAT'S HAPPENING, GRATIA?
IT'S SO FUNNY!
CHLOE WANTED THE CROWN SO MUCH SHE'S THROWN HERSELF ALL OVER HIM
YOU PROMISED HIM YOU'D MARRY HIM.
NO! THAT'S NOT TRUE!


I WILL NOT LET SUCH A THING HAPPEN!
THAT WON'T HAPPEN!
I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE A CHOICE.
YOUR OWN DAUGHTER BROKE A PROMISE IN THE NAME OF HOLY OLYMPUS. I DON'T THINK THE OTHER GODS WOULD APPROVE OF SUCH A THING.
YES.. BUT..
HE'S RIGHT, FATHER
PLEASE FATHER! DON'T LET THIS MONSTER TAKE ME AWAY!
CLANK
THIS STUPID CROWN!

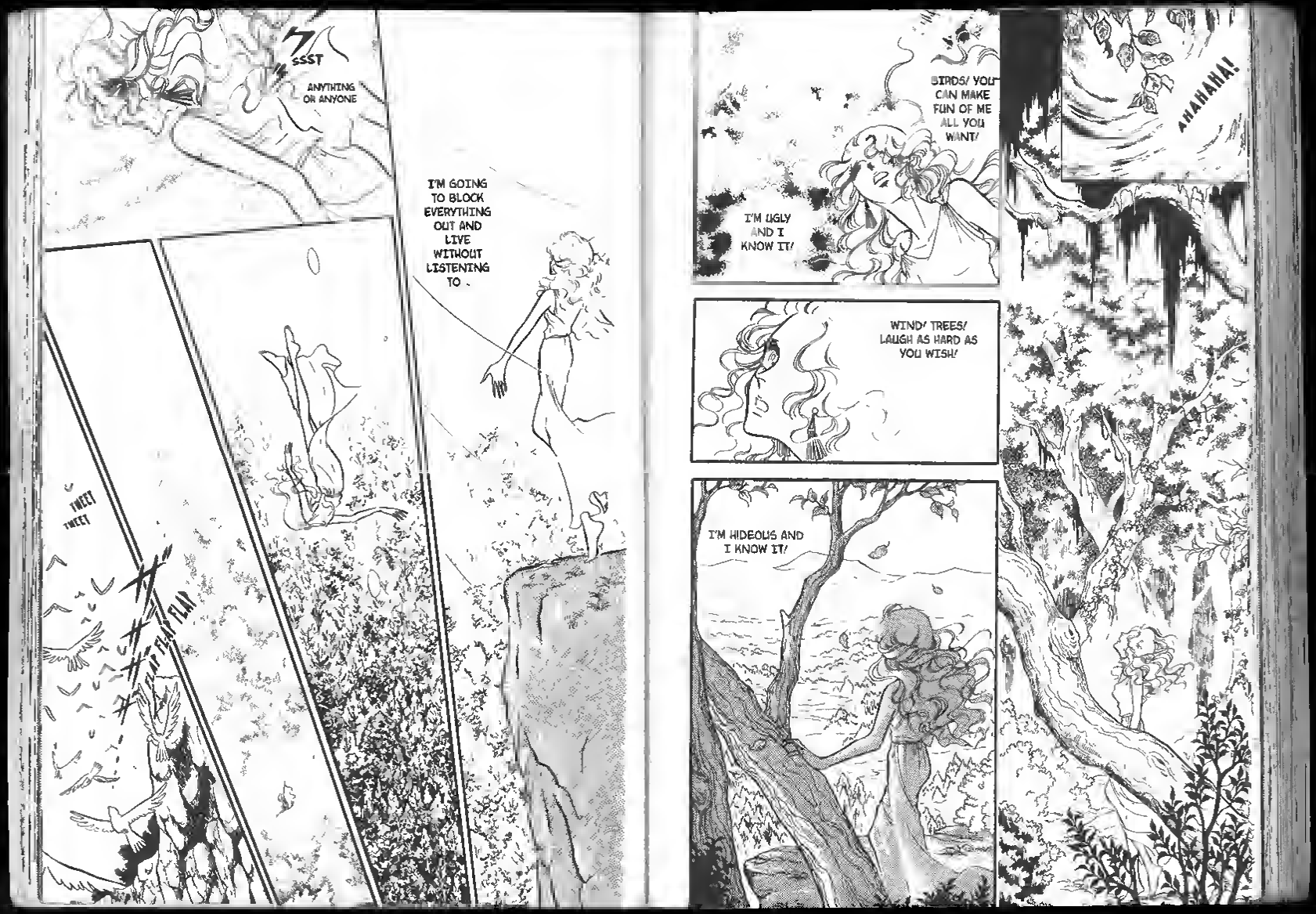
AAAAAHH
あああ.....
NGG... AAH...
ARE YOU OKAY, CHLOE!?
CHLOE!
OH MY!
SNEAK

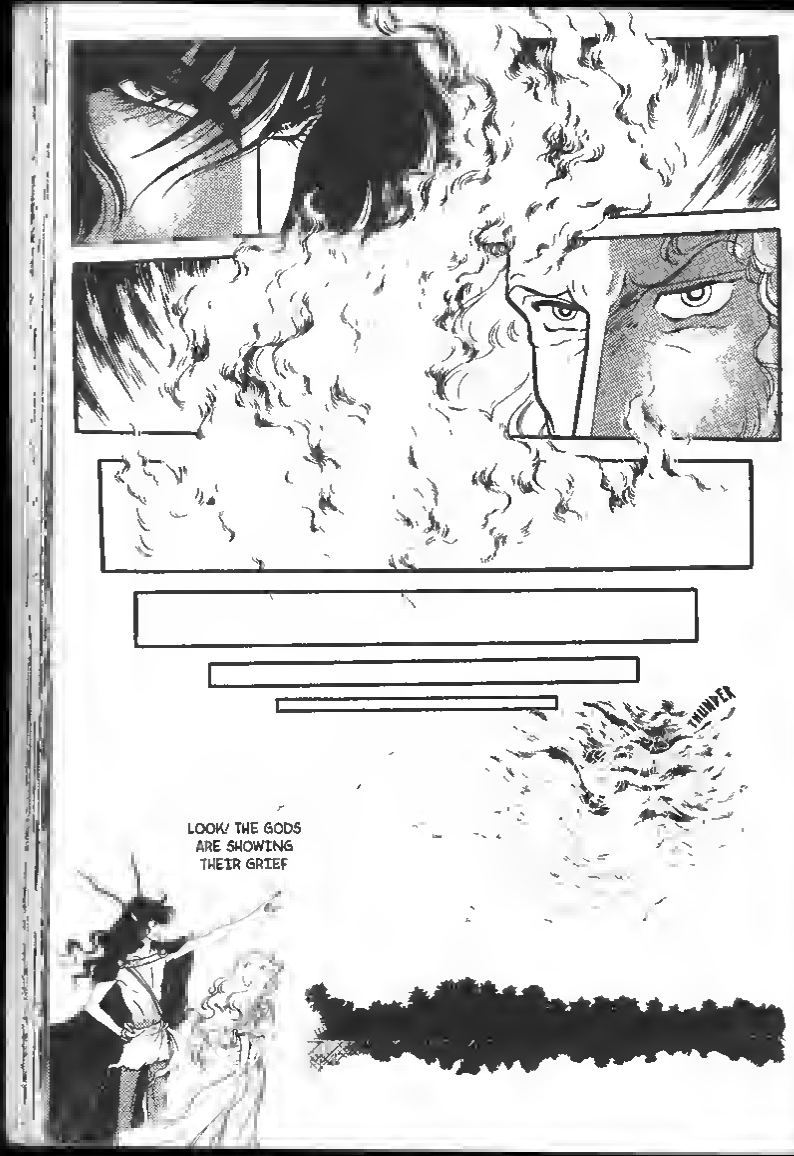
THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO LET YOU HAVE THE CROWN, GRATIA!
THEN I MUST.
IF I HAVE TO BE COMPARED TO YOUR BEAUTY FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
AUK!
GOBBLE
SPLASH
BUBBLE BUBBLE

I COULDN'T STAND TO MARRY A GIRL THAT LOOKS LIKE A MONSTER
HEHEHE LET'S JUST SAY THIS PROMISE WAS NEVER MADE
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING, SATYROS?
HEHEHEHE...
BEING CALLED A MONSTER BY A MONSTER!
POOR CHLOE
HEHEHEHE. LOOK! IT DOESN'T MELT OR BURN IN FIRE.
WHAT AN AMAZING CROWN!
OF COURSE THIS MEANS
I DESERVE THE CROWN

あああAAAGGGHHHH!
AHAHAHAH!
YOU SHOULD BE LAUGHING.
WHY ARE YOU ALL SURPRISED?
AT THE UGLY GIRL WHO WAS EVEN TURNED DOWN BY SATYROS THE MONSTER
ISN'T IT FUNNY?
はっはっはっはっはっはっはっ!

あああAAAGGGHHHH...
GRATIA!
WHOOSH
GRATIA!


SSST
ANYTHING OR ANYONE
I'M GOING TO BLOCK EVERYTHING OUT AND LIVE WITHOUT LISTENING TO .
TWEET TWEET
FLAP FLAP FLAP
BIRDS! YOU CAN MAKE FUN OF ME ALL YOU WANT!
I'M UGLY AND I KNOW IT!
AHAHAHA!
WIND! TREES! LAUGH AS HARD AS YOU WISH!
I'M HIDEOUS AND I KNOW IT!

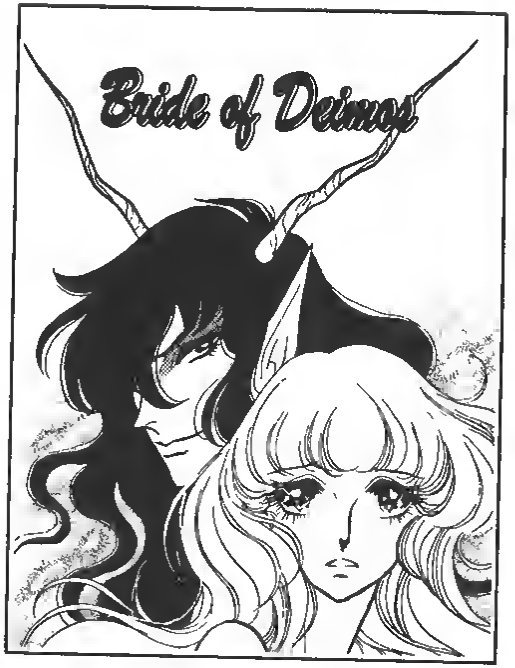

THUNDER
LOOK! THE GODS ARE SHOWING THEIR GRIEF

CHLOE IS DEAD.
TWEET
LOOK JUPITER! VENUS'S DEEP-SEATED GRUDGE, IS FROZEN TO THIS CROWN.
YOU MAKE ME LAUGH
IT DOESN'T EVEN MELT IN THE FLAMES
ARE YOU SATISFIED NOW!?
NEITHER DOES MY HEART!
DON'T EVER SHOW YOURSELF ON OLYMPUS AGAIN!
LEAVE WITH THAT DAMNED CROWN!
LEAVE, DEIMOS!

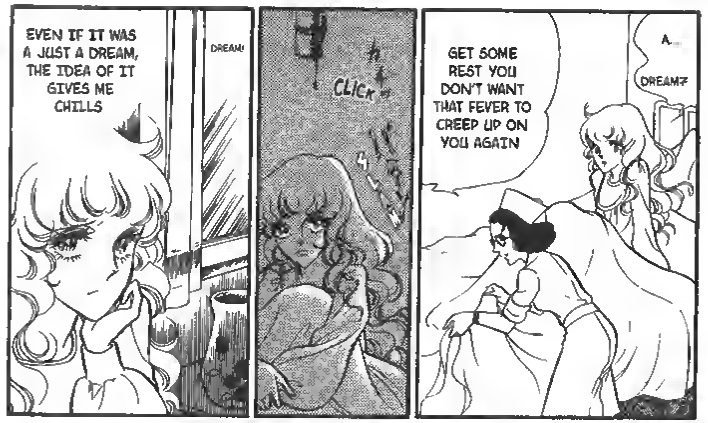
DEIMOS, THE DEVIL WHO DOESN'T FEAR TURNING HIS BACK AGAINST GOD.
THUNDER
I'LL BE WAITING...
I'LL BE WAITING...
SPLASH
WHY ARE YOU TORN BY TWO FEMALE SOULS?
MY LOVE, THE KING OF ALL LOVES...
KILL MINAKO AND TAKE VENUS OR..
CHOOSE MINAKO AND FORGET ABOUT VENUS.

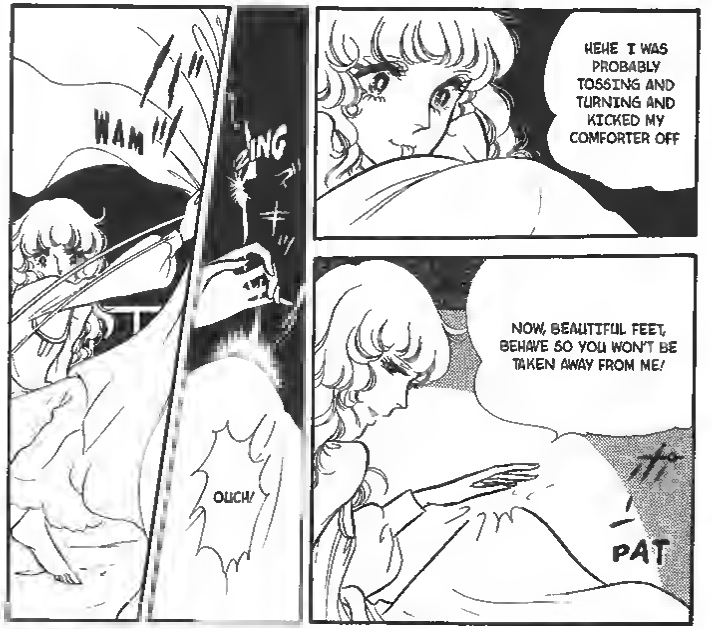
DEIMOS.
IT WAS NOTHING, ONLY A SMALL REVENGE.
DEIMOS, YOU COMMITTED ANOTHER CRIME FOR ME.
THIS CROWN..
SUITS YOU THE BEST.
FOR THAT DAY.
I'LL BE WAITING DEIMOS...
THAT YOU LOVE ONLY ME?
THAT I'M THE MOST BEAUTIFUL?
DEIMOS, WHEN WILL YOU TELL ME...

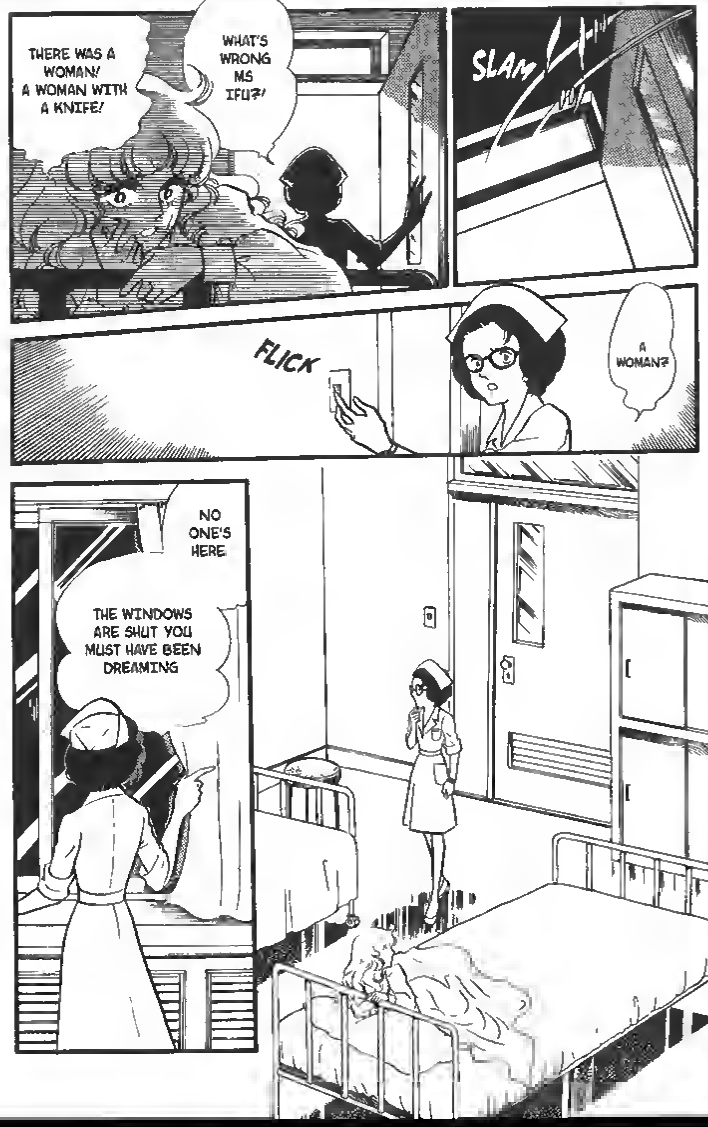
A GIFT FOR THE GHOST



BEAUTIFUL! THESE ARE THE FEET I WANT!
ズズ…
PULL
GRAB
THESE FEET ARE MINE!
THESE FEET..
ギャあああ
あ…
GASP
HM?
WHO IS IT?
FEET, I NEED FEET..
I NEED..
I..
NEED..


EVEN IF IT WAS A JUST A DREAM, THE IDEA OF IT GIVES ME CHILLS
DREAM!
CLICK
GET SOME REST YOU DON'T WANT THAT FEVER TO CREEP UP ON YOU AGAIN
A...
DREAM?

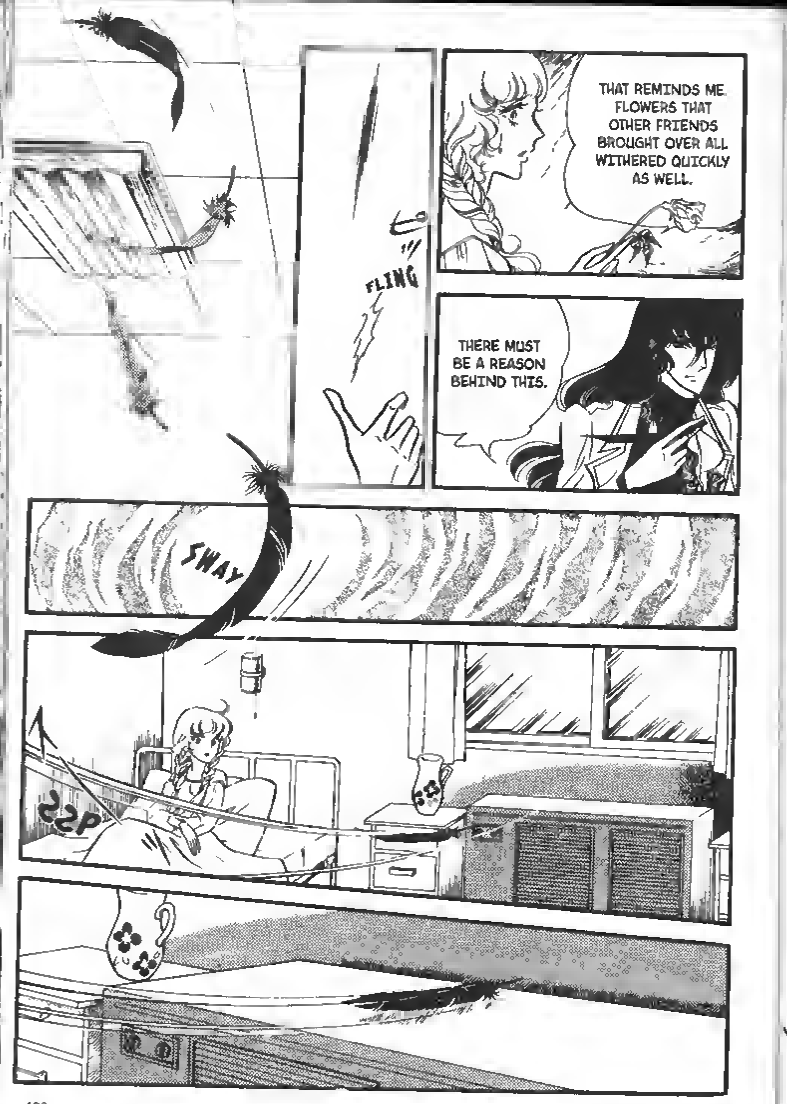

WAM
ING
OUCH!
HEHE I WAS PROBABLY TOSSING AND TURNING AND KICKED MY COMFORTER OFF
NOW, BEAUTIFUL FEET, BEHAVE SO YOU WON'T BE TAKEN AWAY FROM ME!
PAT


THERE WAS A WOMAN! A WOMAN WITH A KNIFE!
WHAT'S WRONG MS IFU?!
SLAM
FLICK
A WOMAN?
NO ONE'S HERE
THE WINDOWS ARE SHUT YOU MUST HAVE BEEN DREAMING

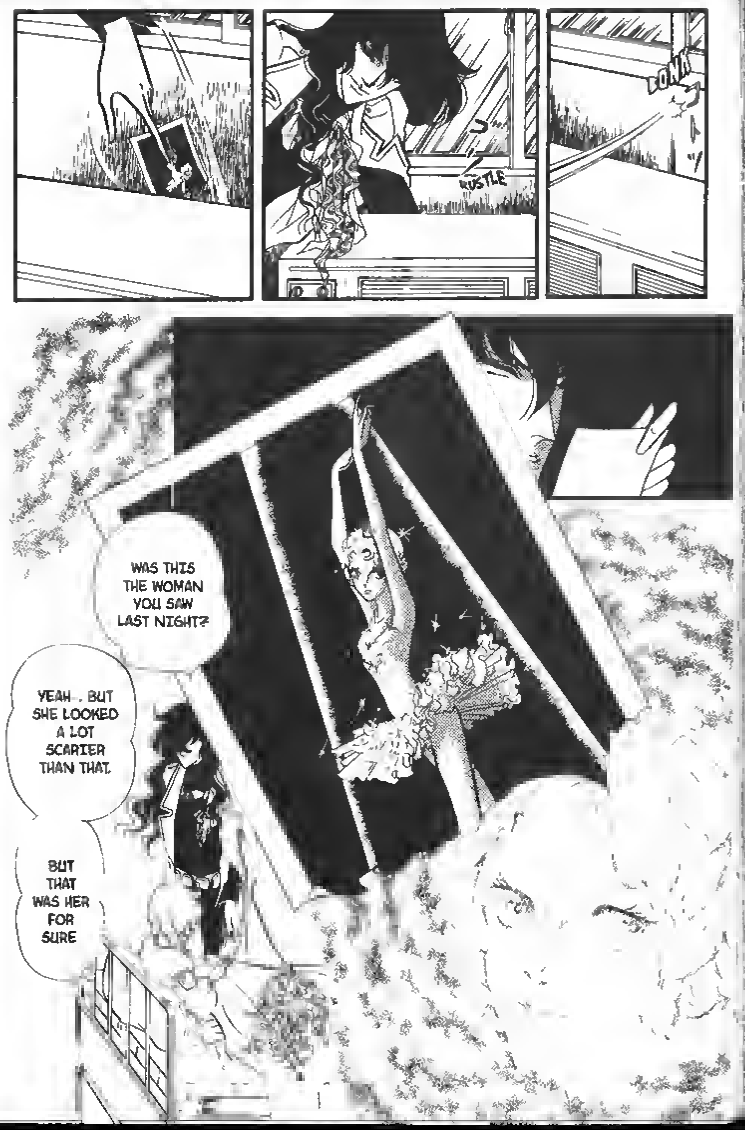
CREEEK
WE WOULDN'T WANT TO COMPLICATE HER BRONCHITIS.
THE PATIENT NEEDS HER REST.
I HOPE MY BRIDE-TO-BE GETS BETTER SOON!
NGG!?

BLOOD!?
THAT WASN'T A DREAM.
IT WASN'T A DREAM!
MORI HOSPITAL

I FEEL A BAD SPIRIT.
A COLDNESS THAT GIVES ME THE CHILLS.
HERE I THOUGHT IT WAS YOU WHO INVITED THAT WOMAN LAST NIGHT.
NEVER KNEW YOU'D SHOW UP TO VISIT IN HUMAN FORM.
THE FLOWERS HAVE WITHERED!
THUD
UNFORTUNATELY, IT WASN'T ME.
THIS ROOM IS CURSED!
SEE!


THAT REMINDS ME. FLOWERS THAT OTHER FRIENDS BROUGHT OVER ALL WITHERED QUICKLY AS WELL.
FLING
THERE MUST BE A REASON BEHIND THIS.
SWAY
ZZP

SO THIS WOMAN HAD AN UNPLEASANT DEATH?
THOSE WHO DIE HOLDING GRUDGES CANNOT ATTAIN BUDDHAHOOD AND REMAIN TIED TO THIS WORLD.
ACK!
DON'T SAY THAT!
SEEMS LIKE YOU SAW A GHOST LAST NIGHT.
I CAN'T STAND HUMANS WHO BEAR GRUDGES.
I'LL ASK THE NURSE
ESPECIALLY *WOMEN* WHO BEAR GRUDGES
SMILE
I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO SAY ANYTHING.
OH DEAR
WHERE DID YOU FIND THIS PICTURE?


RUSTLE
BOMP
WAS THIS THE WOMAN YOU SAW LAST NIGHT?
YEAH... BUT SHE LOOKED A LOT SCARIER THAN THAT.
BUT THAT WAS HER FOR SURE

SO IT LOOKS LIKE YUMIKO IS GUARANTEED PRIMA BALLERINA.
SHH! MAKI CAN HEAR YOU!
OOPS! MAKI'S ALWAYS COMPLAINING. SHE'S NOTHING BUT YUMIKO'S SHADOW.
SHE WAS CRAZY ABOUT TETSUYA.
I DON'T BLAME HER. YUMIKO GOT THE PRIMA BALLERINA POSITION AND TETSUYA!
GOOD! YOU TWO LOOK FANTASTIC OUT THERE!
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, YOU GUYS!

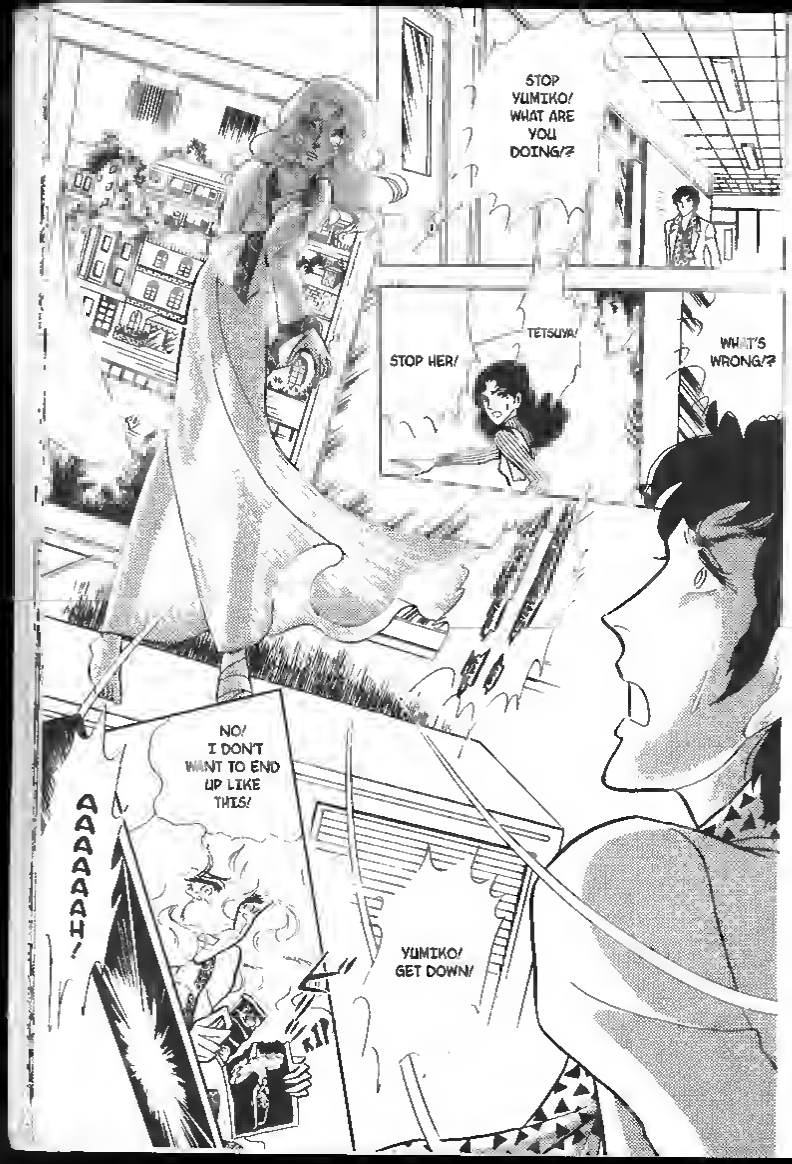
JUST AS I HAD FEARED.
THAT WOMAN STAYED IN THIS ROOM 3 YEARS AGO
BUT THEN...
SHE WAS A BALLERINA WITH A PROMISING FUTURE.
YOU SAID THEY'RE GOING TO BE MARRIED AFTER THE RECITAL? I'M JEALOUS!
THEY WORK SO WELL TOGETHER!
I GUESS IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE TO BE PARTNERS WITH SOMEONE YOU LOVE.

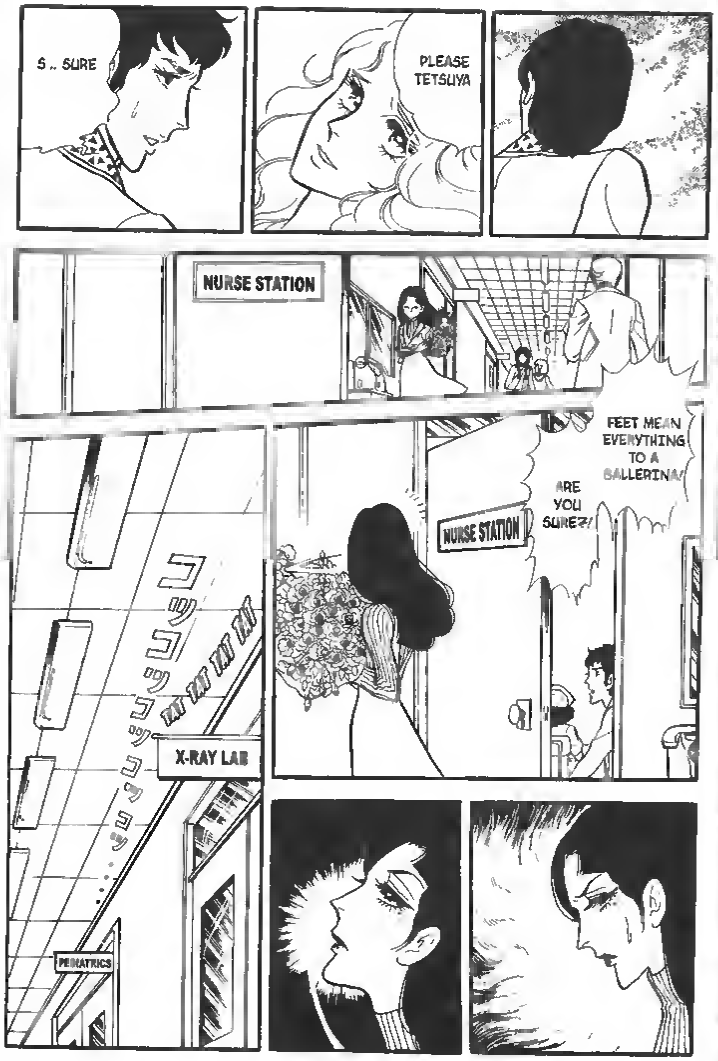
BEAUTIFUL!
HEY!
STRETCH
HOW DOES MY HAIR LOOK?
I'M SO NERVOUS I CAN BARELY PUT ON MY MAKE-UP
READY? WE'RE UP
OUCH!
YEAH. JUST GIVE ME A SEC.
THERE'S SOMETHING IN MY POINTE SHOES

HMPH!
I KNOW!
YOU WON'T NEED ME!
PAY ATTENTION MAKI! I'M COUNTING ON YOU.
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO YUMIKO, I'LL NEED YOU TO BE JUST AS GOOD OUT THERE.
THE SWAN LAKE BALLET RECITAL
UNLESS...
EXIT
PICK
BALLET RECITAL
FLAT FLAT

IT'S RUSTED. YOU NEED TO HAVE IT CHECKED YOU MIGHT GET TETANUS OR GANGRENE.
IT WAS PROBABLY JUST MY CARELESSNESS IT'S FINE
WHAT!
WHO WOULD DO SUCH A THING!?
WE DON'T HAVE TIME. I'M FINE.
I SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO YOU THAT DAY.

SOMEONE TOLD ME THAT MAKI PLACED THAT PIN IN MY POINTE SHOES.
MAKI HAS TAKEN YOUR PART.
SHE'S DOING A NICE JOB.
YOU SHOULD BE FOCUSING ON REHAB.
DON'T BE SILLY. THERE'S NO PROOF
I WANT TO DANCE.
COULD YOU ASK THE DOCTOR WHEN I'LL BE ABLE TO DANCE AGAIN?
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.


STOP YUMIKO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
STOP HER!
TETSUYA!
WHAT'S WRONG!?
NO! I DON'T WANT TO END UP LIKE THIS!
AAAAAH!
YUMIKO! GET DOWN!


S.. SURE
PLEASE TETSUYA
NURSE STATION
FEET MEAN EVERYTHING TO A BALLERINA!
ARE YOU SURE?!
NURSE STATION
コツ コツ コツ コツ
X-RAY LAB
PEDIATRICS

THAT WASN'T THE ENTIRE REASON.
WHAT?
I CAN UNDERSTAND HOW SHE MUST HAVE FELT. I MEAN, A BALLERINA HAVING HER FOOT AMPUTATED!
THAT'S SO SAD!
BUT IN THE END THE DOCTORS DECIDED THAT IT WASN'T NECESSARY
THERE WAS TALK THAT IT MIGHT HAVE TO BE AMPUTATED..
THEN WHY?
MORI HOSPITAL
I THINK IT MADE HER DERANGED.
SHE PROBABLY COULDN'T FORGIVE MAKI, WHO STOLE THE PRIMA BALLERINA POSITION FROM HER, PLAYING INNOCENT AND COMING TO SEE HER AT THE HOSPTIAL.
YUMIKO!
YUMIKO!
AGH!
SSST

SKETCH! SKETCH!
PERFECT! NOW SHE HAS HER FEET AGAIN
I'LL HOLD A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR HER LATER

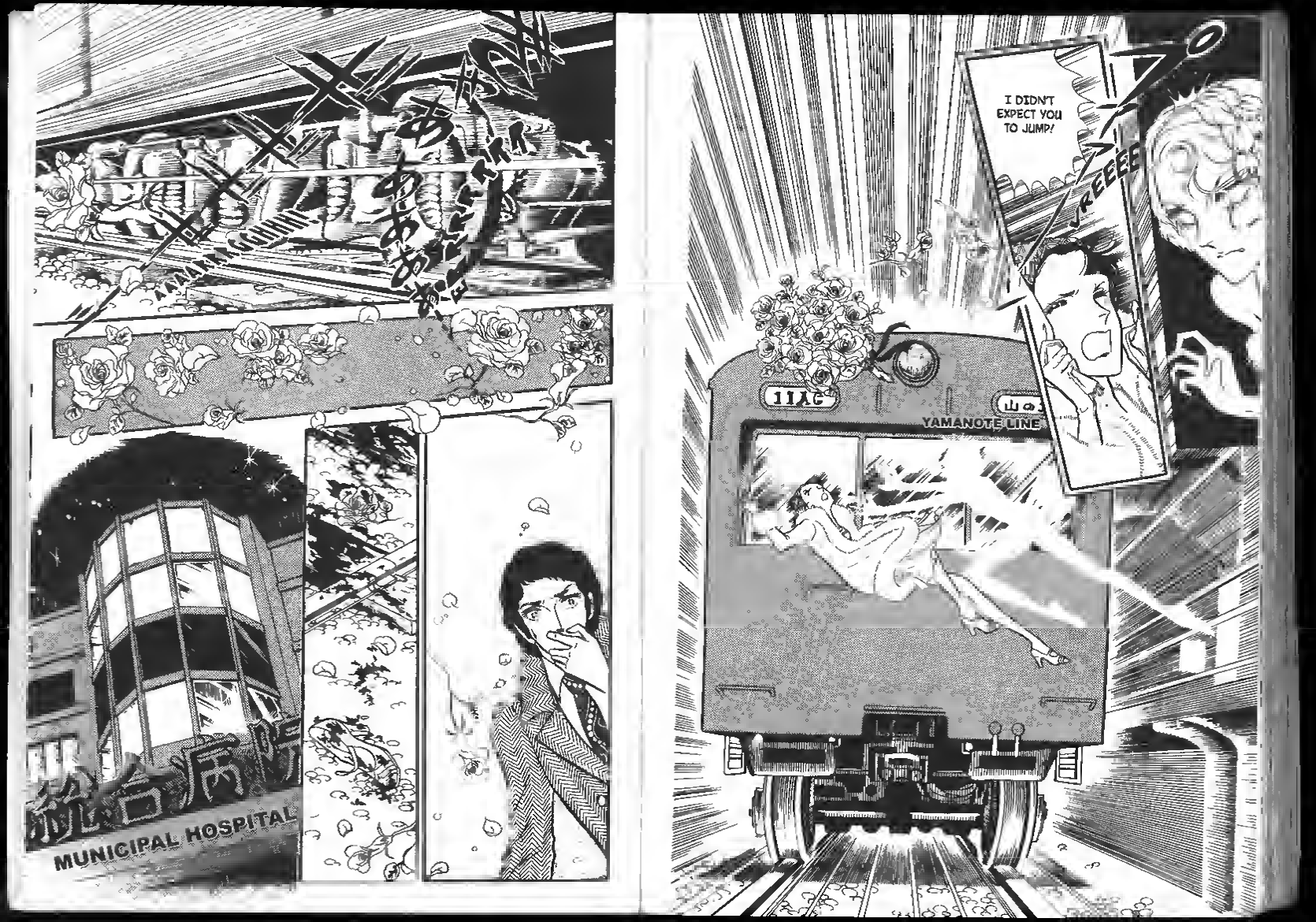
4
OUR BALLET TROUPE WOULD BE NOTHING WITHOUT YOU
THANKS TO YOU!
MMM SMELLS SO GOOD!
TETSUYA, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME YOU START THINKING ABOUT OUR FUTURE?
THIS RECITAL WAS ANOTHER SUCCESS!
YOU CAN LET YOURSELF LOVE ME. TELL ME YOU ONLY THINK ABOUT ME.
I COULD LOVE YOU MORE IF ONLY YUMIKO'S LIFE DIDN'T HAVE SUCH A SAD ENDING.
IT'S UNMANLY OF YOU TO STILL BE THINKING ABOUT A LADY OF THE

WHAT? HERE?
KISS ME!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO JUST TOLD ME TO FORGET ABOUT HER.
SHE'S DEAD. WHY WOULD SHE BE HERE?
I KNOW.
LOOK AT THOSE TWO!
TO CELEBRATE OUR ENGAGEMENT!
YUMIKO!

THIS IS NOT AN EXIT. USE THE OTHER STAIRS.
USE LEFT SIDE FOR WALKING UP STAIRS
YOU'RE SOMETIMES A BIT PUSHY YOU KNOW.
PLEASE.
ACK!
WHAT!
YUMIKO... IS COMING DOWN THE STAIRS!

I WAS JEALOUS OF YOU!
TOT
I LIED WHEN I SAID THEY WERE GOING TO AMPUTATE YOUR FOOT.
DON'T COME NEAR ME! PLEASE!
DON'T SPIT
THE DOCTORS TOLD TETSUYA THEY WEREN'T GOING TO AMPUTATE YOUR FOOT.
TOOT
I SAW HOW HAPPY HE WAS TO HEAR THAT, AND I--I..
MAKI KILLED YUMIKO!?
CHUGA CHUGA

WHAT'S WRONG? IT'S ME!
NO!
MAKI?
I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY, YUMIKO!
MAKI!?
I PUT THE PIN IN YOUR POINTE SHOES!
I WAS WRONG


I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO JUMP!
EEEEE
YAMANOTE LINE
MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL

EXACTED REVENGE AS SOON AS SHE GOT HER FOOT BACK. HEHE... NICE ONE!
THE GHOST THAT CRAVED FEET..
POLLYANNA
FLAP FLAP
THEREBY THE PRIMA BALLERINA MAKES HER EXIT.
THEN I, THE DEVIL, SHALL ALSO...
FREE OF WORRIES...
SHE LOOKS SO PEACEFUL..
POLLYANNA
E. PORTER
WITHOUT HAVING ANY IDEA THAT YOU WERE THE CAUSE OF THAT TRAGEDY
DUMP
E. PORTER
POLLYANNA

NOW is an exciting martial arts rollercoaster ride. Joined by fate, Rin and Bi-Ryu embark on a journey to learn more about Sashinmu - "The Killing Art" and the blood-soaked legacy left by their ancestors. The story cleverly incorporates elements of Korean mythology, action, comedy and heart-warming themes which appeal to the growing legions of manga fans. The action in NOW is beautifully rendered, and the relationships which develop between the characters are just as appealing.

ONE www.tokyopop.com

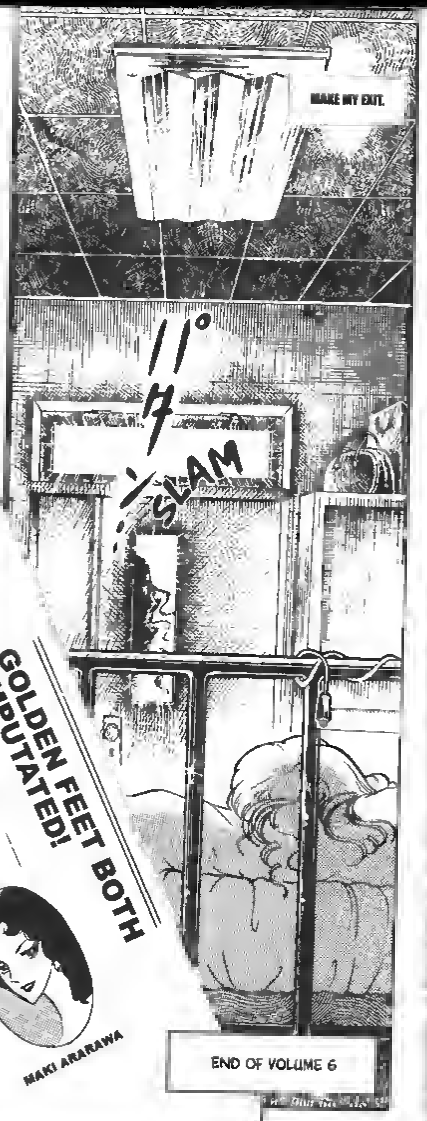
PRODIGY BALLERINA IN CRITICAL CONDITION AFTER TRAIN ACCIDENT

MAKI ARAKAWA LAST STAGE PERFORMANCE, SWAN LAKE, AT TOZUKA THEATRE.

GOLDEN FEET BOTH AMPUTATED!

YESTERDAY JAPAN'S PROMISING BALLERINA, MAKI ARAKAWA (21) ACCIDENTALLY FELL OFF A YAMANOTE LINE PLATFORM

MAKI ARARAWA



END OF VOLUME 6